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Coping with repairs



Improvements to St Mary's church will soon be completed

Picture by Roger Lapwood

BY law, every five years all parish churches have a quinquennial – a detailed inspection by the church's architect. That tells us what needs to be done to preserve Linton's historic church and ensure it remains a valued place of worship and a living presence for the whole community. Then all we have to do is pay for the works, something easier said than done.

Although old buildings are never cheap to keep in good repair, the current round of QI works has now been completed, thanks in large mea-

sure to financial support from the Friends of St Mary's.

With an old building, though, you never know what may turn up. A few weeks into the work, everything was going better than planned. We were well within our budget. Then just before Christmas, we received an unwelcome gift. The builders found a major problem with the stone copings at the east end of the church. Suddenly the under-spend shrank.

Fortunately, there is almost enough money in the pot to allow us to clean the main

stained glass windows and relay the main entrance to create step free access. Although the funding is not yet totally in place, we feel sufficiently confident to carry out these long needed improvements.

If you value your village church, and would like to contribute towards making the church more light and colourful with access easy for all, just get in touch. And if you'd like to join the Friends of St Mary's, contact Bruce Conochie (BruCon@talktalk.net)

Andrew Gore 891970

Teddy finally goes home with Bethany



Nanette handing over the teddy bear to its owner Bethany Frankish with her mother, Sue

Picture by Roger Lapwood

YOU will all be pleased to know that teddy of the famous church tower parachute jump detailed in page 3 of the January issue has been re-united with its little owner Bethany Frankish thanks to Nanette who has written the following poem :

"Hooray, Hooray" Pinkie the little bear said,
with the loss of hair from off her head,
"I don't mind", Bethany cried,
"It's home at last with me to abide".

Nanette Blackmore, 891111

Villagers say no to convenience store

ABOUT 40 residents attended a meeting at the Cathodeon Centre on 12th January to register unanimous disapproval of the application for a convenience store, (rumoured to be a Tesco store) on the white van centre site on the A1307.

Objections covered the enhanced danger to pedestrians and vehicles at entrances and exits for houses on the A1307 including 18 newly built homes, commercial buildings, Linton High Street, the B1052 to Saffron Walden, Joiners Road and the nearby village college and Granta schools.

Chair of Linton parish council, Enid Bald, said the schools are concerned about the increased danger to pedestrians on the narrow footpath between the college and Joiners Road. David Anderson of Joiners Road said that pedestrians on that footpath from the college already block the view of drivers of vehicles exiting Joiners Road. The meeting was also reminded of the recent accidents on that stretch of road and a serious accident caused to Mr Anderson's family when a vehicle ran into the back of his car while he was trying to turn left into Joiners Road.

Residents and Linton parish council planning committee believe the traffic survey at-

tached to the application (which inter-alia contains inaccurate drawings and road names) was undertaken during the summer holiday with less traffic on the road.

The survey only indicated the amount of traffic in and out of Joiners Road, with no indication of the constant stream of through traffic to either Haverhill or the A11 and no comment on the build up and further planned expansion in Haverhill and Saffron Walden.

The application claimed a precedent had been set by similar developments. A picture circulated of a Tesco Express showed a completely different scenario, as that store was amid a busy parade of shops accessed by a filter lane from the through road.

The plans were rejected by the meeting as being totally unacceptable, with many letters and emails of complaint having been received by the clerk. There was general approval for county and district councillor Roger Hickford's comment that after a year the landowner could apply for change of use for the site from commercial to residential development.

County and district councillor Mr Hickford said: "I would be extremely surprised, given the attitude of the Highways Authority, if the application were to be given the go ahead."

Residents agreed with parish councillor Jan Bumstead who said it would be a gross folly and a total disgrace if the plans were approved.

LNT

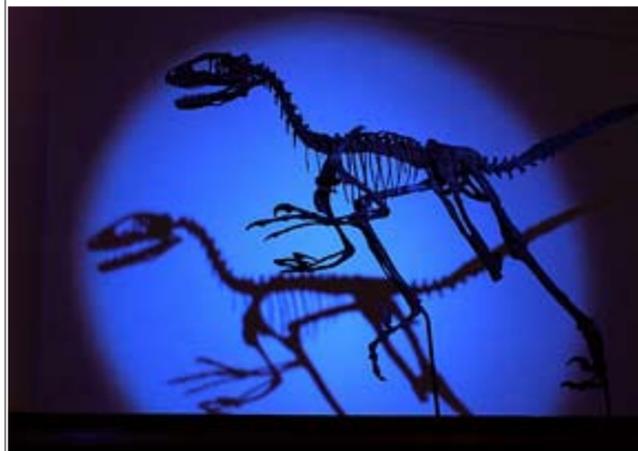
Explore museums at twilight

TWILIGHT at the Museums is almost here and we are getting ready for destination exploration. This will be from 4.30pm to 8.30pm on Wednesday 18th February.

It's time to make the most of those long winter nights as museums and collections across the city open their doors for after dark fun. With 13 venues offering an exciting range of drop in and bookable events throughout the evening, there will be loads for families to see and explore. Why not take part in some torch lit space exploration at the Whipple Museum; discover a world of deep sea darkness at the Polar Museum; or create some *Creatures of Twilight* at the Museum of Cambridge?

The evening is all about fun and discovery and remember, the more places you visit, the more you will be able to see and do. Pick up a *Twilight What's On* guide and passport from participating venues to help you plan and record your journey.

So wrap up warm, grab a torch and get ready for adventure.
www.cam.ac.uk/museums/twilight



Twilight silhouettes

Update on dig by Bartlow Road

IN the January issue we showed a picture of the digging done by Oxford Archeology in the field bordered by Bartlow Road and the A1307.

Tim Havers, Principal Planner of Bidwells, sent me the following email in reply to my queries regarding the reasons for the dig.

"As part of the ongoing Local Plan consultation process, the land in question was put forward for consideration as part of the Local Plan development options for residential led development. The recent archaeological dig was undertaken as further investigation in light of that ongoing planning process. The findings of the dig are being collated into a report which will be issued to Cambridgeshire County Council in due course. If matters did proceed to a planning application then we would consult with the local community prior to making any such application"

So we might expect a planning application for the site in the near future.

Editor

Host a mammoth quiz for Macmillan

THE Macmillan Mammoth Quiz is back, now in its seventh year with a brand new, brain-teasing quiz for 2015. The quiz, organised by the Oundle Macmillan Committee, is Macmillan's national quiz. The same quiz, held on the same day, at the same time, throughout the country. The quiz even holds the Guinness World Record for the world's largest simultaneous quiz. We need you to help make the 2015 quiz the biggest and best yet and help us to reach our target of over £200,000.

Macmillan are looking for local groups and businesses across the UK to host a quiz on 27th February to raise vital funds for people affected by cancer. It's a really fun and easy way to raise money for Macmillan, and you can hold your quiz anywhere from the local pub or bowling club to the office or school. Previous participants have commented: "It was a great quiz and everyone enjoyed it tremendously" and that "the questions are so interesting and catch the imagination".

It costs £10 to sign up to host a quiz. You will be sent a welcome pack with a quiz and fundraising materials. Brand new this year is the quiz website www.mammothquiz.co.uk. Here you will find tips for organising your quiz, posters and tickets, some information about Macmillan and even a sneaky sample.

To register for your 2015 quiz pack, find out more about the mammoth quiz and start downloading sample questions and fundraising materials, please log on to the above website or email mammoth.quiz.uk@gmail.com

Too good for jumble...

FREE from Jean Whitby 893654 are sets of knitting needles, all sizes.

New this month are some materials and printer cartridges for 88XL for HP Office Jet Pro series and a multipack for Epson TO487 Epson stylus photo printers and a new Tefal steam cuisine for healthy, nutritious food. Still on offer are the Digital DVD Player that reads camera disks and has a USB port, 3 brand new matching rugs 115 cm x 70cm, terracotta/cream patterned, the child's snooker table on a frame and 10 stacking metal chairs with black padded back & seats.

The shed raised £30 for WaterAid.

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.



Lights, camera, action at Linton Infant school

FEBRUARY is now here. At the time of writing, the day is overcast, grey and raining. I hope there is an improvement by the time this is published.

Our themes this term are *Lights, Camera, Action* for the foundation stage children and *Radio Gaga* for the Year One and Year Two children. The foundation stage children will be creating their own television channel and deciding which programmes they would like to show, choosing from old and new television. You can be assured there will be lots of music, dancing and learning going on around these topics.

In the middle of January we were lucky enough to have workshops run for the children by the Junk Orchestra. In groups, the children learnt how instruments are made using science, history and design. They then played their instruments all together resulting in a spectacular display of what can be achieved using instruments from around the home and items of rubbish. If your pots and pans go missing you know where they are.

Do you have a skill or hobby you are able to share with the children? We are looking to increase the number of lunchtime clubs on offer to the children which are run by volunteers. We are asking for 30 minutes of your time a week. In return we can give you an enthusiastic group of children who will benefit greatly from your expertise. Do you make jewellery, sew, knit, draw, cook, dance, play scrabble? Our clubs are run from 12.30pm-1pm and we will offer support to help make your club a success.

If you are able to help, please contact the school on 891421. Louise Clark, Headteacher

Pantomime comes to town

JOIN the Linton Players, a new drama group for the village. We are putting on the pantomime *Dick Whittington*, and we are looking for people of all ages from 14 years upwards who would like to get involved including actors, actresses, singers, dancers, musicians, costume makers, make-up artists, artists, sound and lighting technicians.

All the profit will go to charity. We will be auditioning for the main roles at the end of February (Oh yes we will!).

For more information please contact me on 891790 or 07508 908735 (after 7pm except weekends) or e-mail: lintonplayers@gmail.com.

Tracey Zambrana,

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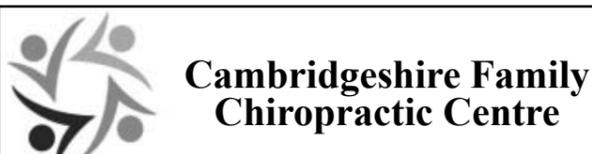
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Reading focus at Linton Heights

THE New Year at Linton Heights has started extremely well with the return of Mrs Smelik who will be covering for Ms Farr when she is on maternity leave. Mrs Smelik's timely return coincides with a strong school emphasis on reading.

The pupils are benefiting from a heavy investment in books and the arrival of new bookshelves and reading corners in the classrooms. George, Ben and Jacob from Mrs Smelik's class write:

"In Year Five we are reading *Around the World in 80 Days*. This adventure story is about Phileas Fogg, a rich gentleman who lives in London at the end of the 19th century. One day he reads in a newspaper that it should be possible to travel around the world in 80 days.

Phileas then makes a £20,000 bet that he can travel round the world in 80 days with help from his butler Jean Passepartout. They both go on the train and next find a boat that takes them to France. They have a lot of adventures and are followed by Inspector Fix, who thinks that Phileas has stolen the money. We hope that he makes it.

In our classroom we have the study of the author of the book, Jules Verne. In this room you can find out all about this creative writer and write a chapter of our class adventure story."

If Linton residents are having a post-Christmas clear out and have any age-appropriate books they are willing to donate to the school, our pupils would be very appreciative.

James Puxley, Headteacher

Next Bartlow walk to support hospital's palliative care

THE Palliative Care service for Addenbrooke's consists of a hospital team and the Breathlessness Intervention service. The palliative care team is made up of nurses, doctors and a psychologist, who visit patients and their families on the wards of the hospital. The team sees patients facing terminal and incurable illnesses, from any cause. It aims to help the patients to work out what is important for them at this time and achieve the best quality of life possible.

Working alongside the doctors and nurses on the wards whilst the patients receive treatment for their condition, the team is also available for those who are reaching the end of their lives. The team visits the patient to assess their needs as a whole person and provides medication for symptoms and emotional support whilst also planning for the future.

The Breathlessness Intervention Service aims to help people who are experiencing breathlessness and to support the patients and their families to live more easily with their breathing problems. The service mainly sees patients at home with patients being taught how to cope with their breathing, when often in the past the breathlessness had overwhelmed them.

The palliative care service is delighted that Bartlow Three Counties Charity Walk has chosen them to benefit from the walk. This year's Bartlow Walk will take place on 3rd May – please join us – we offer six, nine and 13 mile options for adults and a one-mile Nature Trail for the kids. Something for everyone.

Graham Howat, Walk Co-ordinator
grahamhowat1@gmail.com

Young farmers meet and have fun and raise money for charity

THE National Federation of Young Farmers' Clubs is a rural youth organisation dedicated to young people who have a love for agriculture and rural life. The nearest club to Linton is the Ashdon and Saffron Walden Young Farmers' Club which has over 60 members aged from 16 to 26, from an area bounded by Cambridge, Thaxted, Stansted and Haverhill. Our members have many different jobs some of which aren't farming.

Our activities range from countywide competitions including sports, public speaking and countryside based as well as a weekly programme which has covered life drawing classes, clay shooting, off roading and a thousand other topics.

As a club we also like to give back to the community by taking part in several fundraising activities for our chosen charity for the year. They are usually good fun too. Last year we managed to raise £4,797 for the Princes Trust. This year we will be holding a big 70th anniversary ball which will be held at 6.30pm on 7th March at Parsonage Farm Henham. There we will have a charity auction to help raise money for Epilepsy Action. Following that will be the annual club clay shoot which will be held on the first Saturday in June.

We look forward to welcoming new faces to these events. Our regular meeting place is the Kings Arms, 10 Market Hill, Saffron Walden on Tuesdays at 8pm but this can vary if we have an event.

For more details contact secretary Abi Thurgood-Buss on 07841 112525 or email abi_tb4@hotmail.com

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PLODDING ALONG

An update on police matters

BETWEEN 3pm on 24th December and 11.20am on 25th December a BMW parked on Balsham Road, had the passenger wing mirror broken off. If anyone has any information regarding this crime, please let us know immediately. There was no other vehicle involved and it is believed the damage was caused maliciously.

Between 5.30pm on 6th January and 8am on 7th January an L-plated, purple 600cc Yamaha motorcycle was stolen from the front garden of a property in Wheatsheaf Way. The motorcycle was then found dumped in Haverhill on 8th January. If anyone has information regarding this theft please contact me as soon as possible. Did anyone see this motorcycle being put onto a trailer or into a transit van?

Between 6.30pm on 6th January and 6.45 am on 7th January a moped was tampered with; damage to the handlebars was caused. The moped was parked on a drive, under cover, at a property in Chalklands. Did you see anybody acting suspiciously in this area? This could be linked to the motorcycle theft in Wheatsheaf Way.

Between 4pm and 5pm on 8th January a camera was stolen from inside a property in Fairfield Way. Enquiries are ongoing in respect of this theft as we have a possible suspect.

Between 12noon and 1.30pm on 8th January a wallet was stolen from someone's jacket pocket at a school in the village.

Between 5.55pm and 6pm on 12th January a large amount of paint was thrown onto the side door of a property in Balsham Road. A vehicle was seen to speed off.

If anyone has any information regarding any of the above crimes, please let us know as soon as possible.

PCSO Leanne Fisher

Operation Oaklands

DURING the week of 16th - 22nd February PCSOs and Police Officers will be patrolling in Linton in connection with Operation Oaklands. Officers will be knocking on doors offering crime prevention advice to residents who answer. Those residents who are not in will receive a card stating that a quick security survey of the outside of their property has been completed. Any insecurities noted by the officers will be marked on the card. Officers will be stocked up with shed and window alarms and smart water kits, which can be purchased. During the evenings, patrols will be conducted in relation to vehicle security.

Speeding in the village is mentioned on a regular basis. We are eager to set up a volunteer Speedwatch group, which involves three or more volunteers setting up and tackling local speeding. All volunteers will be trained on Speedwatch equipment. If you want to know more about Speedwatch, please email me on Leanne.fisher@cambs.pnn.police.uk and I can send you more information. Once we have enough volunteers we can arrange for training on the equipment.

PCSO Leanne Fisher

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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
Our thanks go to past and present LVC pupils who raised nearly £300 at a busking session at the Grafton Centre on the 17th December in aid of the charity *My Blue Heart*.

The event was organised not only to raise funds but also make people aware of the charity which offers support to those who have suffered a great loss and those who are recently bereaved.

Thank you to everyone who came over and made donations and shared their own experiences. Thank you also to everyone who helped on the day in various ways, especially Louisa Pett for making it happen.

More information about *My Blue Heart* can be found at www.myblueheart.co.uk or on their facebook page. Paul Flynn by email.

Time for stories

STORYTIME is aimed at children aged 18months to pre-school age. It is held from 2.30 until 3pm every Tuesday during term time in the Library and it is free. The dates left for this term are 3rd, 10th and 24th February and 3rd, 10th, 17th and 24th March. For more information see www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/library

Anne Worthington,
Anne.Worthington@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

See the Japanese gardens

ON Tuesday 10th February Steve Jones will present his wonderful illustrated talk on Japanese Gardens to Linton gardening club. He will no doubt provide fresh inspiration as we think about how our gardens will look this summer. All are warmly invited to join us for the evening which starts at 7.30pm in the village hall.

As the New Year begins, so does our planning for this year's show on Saturday 25th July. With this in mind, a retirement leaves us short of a van to transport the show's staging. We have a team to load and unload the van. If you own a van and could help the team on the Friday night and Saturday afternoon by driving the staging from its village store to the village hall and then back, we would love to hear from you. If you can help, please get in touch with me, details below. Many thanks.

Don't forget, now is also a great time to be thinking about planting up things for the show or plant sale. The winter evenings also lend themselves to enjoying art, crafts or making chutney or preserves. We look forward to bountiful show entries this year.

Kirsten Newble, lqcsecretary@yahoo.co.uk

Building the Millenium tower

theWI OUR
INSPIRING WOMEN speaker for
January

was Horry Parsons, who was responsible for the construction teams on this project. He joked that his company got the contract because of his Suffolk accent.

When King Edmund the martyr was made a saint, an abbey was built in Bury with 10 churches round the perimeter. Various additions and demolitions were made over the years, but not until 1984, thanks to the generosity of an anonymous benefactor and the Millenium Commission, was there enough money to start work on the tower, and it had to be finished by 2003. It was to be built of stone and brick in the medieval style, because stone alone would be prohibitively expensive. The Barnack stone wanted, which has a track record of lasting 1000 years, had been exhausted 400 years previously but, after months of searching, a supply was found and earmarked for St Edmundsbury, much to the chagrin of other cathedrals.

There are 9244 stones in the tower and each one was cut from a template off site, numbered and placed in position using Lewis pins which have been in use since Roman times. In all there were 98 miles of scaffolding. Surprisingly, there were only six stone masons and eight bricklayers, and their apprentices, employed.

The lime mortar used for the bricklaying was developed only after six months trial and error.

Interestingly the words used on the planning application were 'one storey extension on a one storey building'.

Horry gave us an amusing tale about Prince Charles, the patron of the project, who had laid a couple of bricks on a visit. When he opened the tower, he said to his wife: "Darling, I laid two of those bricks", to which his wife replied: "Did you darling, which ones are they?"

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday 3rd February when the speaker will be Robert Parker on *Looking for William - tracing a long lost relative*.

Sally Probets, 891021



The tower built on top of a stump of a tower started many years ago

Picture supplied by Sarah Friswell
PR Manager St Edmundsbury cathedral

THE LINTON NEWS Next Publication 2nd March 2015
DEADLINES for ADVERTS Monday 9th February
NEWS ITEMS Wednesday 11th February

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 send an email with your event details to diary@linton.info, or use the form on www.linton.info. Call 971797 for an audio version of the Linton News
Details of items in bold type may be found in this edition.

WEEKLY

Seedlings Alternate Mondays 1.15-2.45pm	CC
Whist drive, 7.30pm Mondays	VH
Chestnutbaby/toddlergroup, 9.30-11.30am Mondays	term time CC
Linton Granta football bingo, 7pm Mondays	Pavilion
Linton theatre workshop, Mondays (call Joe 01440 703701)	
Play & Stay, Alternate Tuesdays, 9.30-11am	CC
WEA, Tuesdays, 10am term-time	VH
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
Table tennis club, 8pm Thursdays term time only	URC
Linton chess club, 7.30pm Tuesdays (893509)	CC
Granta duplicate bridge club, 2-4pm Tuesdays	VH
IT club, 7pm Tuesdays	CC
Tots in tow, 10-11.30am Wednesdays term time only	VH
Linton radio race car club, 6-10pm Wednesdays	VH
Jelly Beans playgroup, 9-11.30am Thursdays	URC
Computer buddies, 2-4pm, Thursdays	Library
Crickets club, 6-8pm Thursdays	RG, LVC
Carpet bowls, 7.30pm Thursdays	VH
Bumps to babies, 1.15-2.45pm Thursdays	CC
Table tennis club, 8-10pm Thursdays term time only	URC hall
Parents, carers and tots Mocha house, 9.15-10am Fridays	CP
St Mary's church choir, 7-8.30pm Fridays	St Mary's
Bridge club, 7pm Fridays	CC

For sports centre courses please call LVC sports centre on 890248

FEBRUARY 2015

2 Camera club, 7.15pm	CC
3 WI, 7.30pm	VH
4 Linton Reading Group, 8pm	VH(upstairs)
5 Linton lunch club, 12 noon	Red Lion
7 Farmers' Market, 9am	LVC
7 LMS Concert, 7.30pm	LVC
8 Lighthouse, 10.15-12noon	URC
10 VIP group, 2pm	Chalklands
10 Gardening club, 7.30pm	VH
11 Community Navigator	HC
12 Parish council meeting, 7.30pm	CC
15 Walking group, 11am	Church Lane
15 Messy Church, 2.30pm	St Mary's Church
16 Cambridge hearing Help, 9.30-12	HC
16 Operation Oaklands	Various
17 Historical society, 7.30pm	VH
23 Fairtrade Fortnight, places	ring Anna 892525
23 Operation Oaklands	Various
27 Macmillan Mammoth Quiz	hopefully various

MARCH 2015

3 WI, 7.30pm	VH
4 Linton Reading Group, 8pm	VH(upstairs)
5 Linton lunch club, 12 noon	Red Lion
7 Farmers' Market, 9am	LVC
7 LVC table top sale, 9am	LVC
8 Lighthouse, 10.15-12noon	URC
10 VIP group, 2pm	Chalklands
10 Gardening club, 7.30pm	VH
11 Community Navigator	HC

All village groups are asked to enter date, time and venue of events in the village diary at the Post Office at the earliest opportunity to prevent clashing events or missed event.

KEY: CC Cathodeon centre, CP church pavilion, D&D Dog and Duck, HC health centre, LH Linton Heights school, LI Linton Infant school, LVC Linton village college, RG recreation ground, URC United Reform church, VH village hall.

Library times: Mon closed; Tue 10am-5pm; Wed 4pm-7pm; Thurs 2pm-5pm; Fri 10am-5pm; Sat 10am-1pm.

Linton refuse collection (black bin): 2nd and 16th February
Linton recycling blue bin 9th and 23rd February
Linton green bin 9th February

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Talking newspaper's 25th anniversary

THIS month Granta Grapevine, Linton's talking newspaper will celebrate recording the 300th edition and next month will be the 25th anniversary of the audio version of the Linton News.

The group was started a few years after the Linton News was first published and provided the first recording in March 1990. It comprises a news side and a magazine side, which includes mainly local content and is produced free for anyone who is visually impaired or has difficulty reading the Linton News for any reason. The accompanying photograph of some members of the team and supporters was taken at the AGM last year.

If you know anyone who would like to receive a copy of the recording each month, contact our distributor Roger Lapwood, telephone number 971797. If you would like to help the group, you can get more information via our website www.grantagrapevine.org.uk or call me on 893619.

Mike Crofts



Granta Grapevine's volunteer team

Picture by Roger Lapwood

Hearing Help advice

CAMBRIDGESHIRE Hearing Help, formerly known as CAMTAD, is a local charity which helps those living with hearing loss. They are holding an event from 10am to 12noon on Friday 20th March at Scotsdales Garden Centre in Great Shelford. They will be there to give you advice and demonstrate equipment to help you hear better, whether or not you wear a hearing aid. This will cover the telephone, television, door-bells and general conversations. The advice is free. Come and discuss your hearing difficulties with those who understand the problem.

More information about Hearing Help can be found on their website: www.cambridgeshirehearinghelp.org.uk or by telephoning 416141.

Frances Dewhurst
Director Cambridgeshire Hearing Help CIO

World War I we will remember them

Boy 1st class Thomas Jacobs
3rd February 1915

THOMAS was born in Eriswell, Suffolk but had moved to Linton around 1902. He was son of Joseph and Maria and lived at Heath Farm with his six brothers and started work there as a farm labourer.

At the age of 16 he joined the Royal Navy and a year later he set sail on HMS Clan McNaughton. The ship was originally a passenger cargo vessel that had been converted to an armed vessel for the war. The ship set sail, and was last heard of on the 3rd February 1915 where it is believed it foundered in a severe gale off the coast of Scotland. The addition of armaments may have made the ship unstable and unsuitable for the conditions.

Thomas was not the only local person on the vessel. Samuel Pearson, 16 and from Hadstock was also aboard. Their bodies were never recovered, and they are commemorated on the Chatham Naval Memorial.

Esther Cornell, esther@lintonatwar.org

Grants for end of World War II commemoration activities

NEXT summer marks the 70th anniversary of the end of World War II. In celebration of this important anniversary, Cambridgeshire County Council is pleased to announce a *Small Grants Fund* to encourage community activity.

On 8th May 1945 more than a million people took to the streets to celebrate VE Day, the end of the war and peace in Europe. Huge crowds amassed in front of Buckingham Palace as King George VI and Winston Churchill greeted a nation full of joy and relief at the prospect of peace after six years of conflict and hardship.

Having agreed in principle to unconditional surrender on 15th August (VJ Day), Japan formally surrendered on 2nd September signifying the end of World War II in the rest of the world.

It is an opportunity for communities and Cambridgeshire residents to come together to remember the wartime effort, celebrate peace, reminisce about the unforgettable forties era and capture some of the

celebratory mood of the time. Whether it be a community tea dance, the researching and sharing of stories, a lindy hop event, raising morale through music or sport, a make do and mend community craft project, creating a Dig For Victory garden or giving your fête or festival a forties theme, we would like you to design and deliver activities within your community which motivate and encourage people to get involved.

Small grants will be awarded to local groups and organisations to support community activities linked to and inspired by the 70th anniversary, wartime Britain and the 1940s era.

Each grant will be up to a maximum of £500 and additional funding or support in kind will be expected. The grants will be awarded in two rounds. The deadlines for applications for each round are 9th February and 9th March.

To request an application form and for details on how to apply for a Small Grant, please email ww2commemoration@cambridgeshire.gov.uk or call 01954 284615.

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Local residents reminded to Choose Well this winter

RESIDENTS in Cambridgeshire are being reminded to find the right health service for their illness or injury this winter by Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG), which commissions health services in the area.

Pharmacies can help with bugs and viruses, skin conditions, allergies, pregnancy testing and help with stopping smoking.

GPs can help with back ache, ear ache, painful coughs, mental health conditions and any illness or injury that won't go away.

Walk-in centres or minor illness or injury units can help with minor burns and scalds, bites and stings, strains and sprains and minor eye or ear problems.

If you don't know which service you need to choose, dial NHS 111 and they will help. You can call NHS 111 free from any phone 24/7. Call 111 when it's less urgent than 999.

Dr Emma Tiffin, Cambridge GP said: "Local patients are encouraged to Choose Well when they are ill or injured to ensure the right treatment can be given more quickly to those in need of urgent care."

Dr Tiffin added: "Winter always brings more coughs, colds and flu so it's a good idea to be prepared and to make sure you have a supply of remedies at home to help care for you and your family over the colder months."

Remember if somebody is unwell and you are not sure as to the best course of action, it is often best to call first for advice.

For more information please visit www.choosewellcambs.nhs.uk

Jo Hobson, Acting Communications Manager



Carers drop-in events to resume

THE popular drop-in events, run by the Carers Support team and Physical Disability Service, for adults living with a long term illness, disability or age-related condition and people providing unpaid care for an adult relative or friend, are to be continued in 2015.

Our nearest joint carers and adult drop-ins are held from 10.30am to 1pm on the third Tuesday of the month at Sawston Free Church, 1 High Street, Sawston CB22 3BG.

On 17th February the talk will be given by Ali Murray from the Stroke Association and on 17th March there will be an Art for Easter session given by Nancy Voak from the Carers Support Team

Drop-in events are held monthly in other locations across the county. Details of all the events can be found on www.cambridgeshire.net

For further information telephone 01480 377616 or Leigh Hornsby on 01480 373220

Let them know your opinion

HEALTHWATCH Cambridgeshire wants to know what you think about our Local Healthwatch, so they can do more of the good things and fewer of the not so good things.

What issues do you think they should work on in the future? This is important, as it helps them focus on what matters to you.

Please take three minutes to tell them what you think by following the link www.healthwatchcambridgeshire.co.uk/how-are-we-doing.

The survey closes on Sunday 8th February 2015.
Sandie Smith

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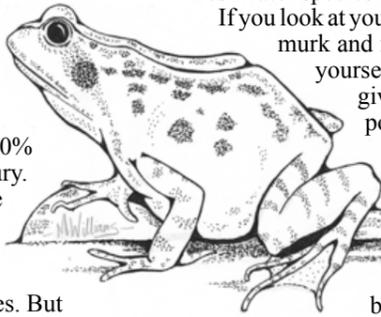
Text by Jo Sinclair and illustrated by Maureen Williams



Making a splash

FROGGIE went a-courtin' and he found a brick wall uh-ha. I attended a talk about nature conservation in a new building and found a frog in the hall. It was spring; perhaps a homing instinct had brought the amphibian back to the site of what had been a pond.

The Freshwater Habitats Trust reports that 50% of the UK's ponds were lost in the 20th century. Their Million Ponds Project aims to reclaim the million ponds that enriched our landscape a hundred years ago. The pond on Walden Road in Hadstock is a perfect example of the kind of landscape feature we've lost from our villages. But reserves such as Linton's Pocket Park with its meandering river, marsh and pond offer a stable environment (two thirds of all



freshwater species are sustained by ponds).

If you look at your garden, school or workplace in the February murk and imagine it transformed, how about picturing yourself a wildlife pond? I have seen entire gardens given over to one enormous pond (apparently a pond is a pond unless it's a fraction bigger than two and a half football pitches – in which case it's a lake.)

It's the right time of year to dig one as it will have time to establish. A natural pond will colonise surprisingly fast. And even if you have space only for a tub or bucket it's possible to create a feature that can be planted up with species such as water lilies, pondweed and yellow flag.

Taste of success



Pictured above left to right are: Justine Hart, Ollie Golding, Emma Stephens and Sirena Neaves

Picture supplied by the school

BBQ BITES was the name of the winning team in Linton Village College recent Enterprise Challenge, supported by Dalehead Foods and Waitrose. Year 9 students had to create a recipe for Scotch Eggs and then make the product for judges from Waitrose and Dalehead Foods to taste. They also had to design packaging and marketing materials and create a budget for their product.

The winning recipe will now be considered for factory production at Dalehead Foods in Linton with a view to selling it in Waitrose stores. Two years ago, a team of students from Linton had their sausages put into production and sold in Waitrose.

Tony Kelly

30th anniversary of Sawston's Fun Run to be held in May

MANY local groups will benefit from this year's event to be held on Sunday 10th May according to the organisers, the Rotary Club of Cambridge Sawston.

The aim is to donate over £14,000 to help 19 organisations and add to the £397,000 that has already been given to local charities and organisations over the last 30 years.

The major beneficiary will be Tom's Trust, a charity created as a legacy to nine year old Tom Whiteley which raises funds for Brainbow, a dedicated and pioneering rehabilitation service at Addenbrooke's Hospital for children with brain tumours.

With many local organisations benefitting and the backing of Sawston Village College, the Cambridge Building Society and other major local businesses, we are hopeful that many local people will run or walk to support Tom's Trust and the other 18 local beneficiaries.

The event has become the largest annual family event in the area, regularly attracting 1,000 entrants from a wide area.

Offers of help would be much appreciated and advertising and promotional opportunities exist for those businesses who want to be supportive and involved. Details can be obtained from Tony Collett, on 893447 or emailing t.collett@virgin.net

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POT POURRI 119

Find the value of the function

If $x_1 = 38$, then for $n > 1$ $x_n = n/(x_{(n-1)})$
what is $x_1 x_2 x_3 x_4 x_5 x_6 x_7 x_8$?

Solution to 118 - Equation Value for x
Under the square root. sign should have read 18x not 18
The real values of x = -1.19 and -16.81 (to 2 dec. pl.)
Urania

NEWS IN BRIEF

February concert

LMS
LINTON Music Society welcomes internationally famous pianists Dennis Lee and Chee Hung-Toh who will play duets and works for solo piano at 7.30pm on Saturday 7th February at Linton Village College. These two pianists have delighted Linton audiences at their concerts here going back many years.

LMS is eager to attract new audience members so are pleased to offer half price tickets for this concert to the first 20 people to email lmsandlyn@gmail.com before Friday 6th February.
Linda Bird

Table top sale

THERE will be a table top sale from 9am-12noon on Saturday 7th March at Linton Village College (same day as the Farmer's Market), in aid of the Friends of Linton Village College.
Get rid of your unwanted items, make a few pennies, pick up a bargain and raise money for the college.
To book a table, please contact Joyce on 891790.

Orienteering taster day

IF you have always wanted to have a go at orienteering now is your opportunity. Cambridge PPF are holding an Orienteering Taster Day, so come to Wandlebury country park on 7th February and receive instructions on how to orienteer your way around the park. Meet at the park's notice board at 11am to purchase a map of our permanent orienteering course. The maps, costing £1.50, have many control posts and options for routes. No previous knowledge or experience necessary.
For further information ring 243830 or look on the website www.cambridgeppf.org

Hildersham in February

IT'S Teatime on 5th February. Come and join us for tea, cake and conversation from 3pm until 4.30pm in the village hall.
Advance notice: It's Teatime on 5th March will fall within Fairtrade Fortnight. Bare Necessities or Fair Necessities. There will be a Fairtrade stall and film with all proceeds from Teatime going to the Fair Necessities Fund. This is a government supported initiative; the government will double every pound raised to support those in developing countries who work to establish their own businesses either through farming or crafts.

The next Hildersham Lecture will take place at 7.30pm on 27th February at Hildersham church. Primary and nursery school headteacher, Rachel Myer, will speak on *A School Near Here* about her work in an urban school with its joys and challenges. Ticket price includes refreshments.
For any queries please contact Cathy Myer on 892848 or at catherinemyer43@btinternet.com
The Trust quiz night is at 7pm on Friday 20th March in Hildersham Village Hall. Tickets cost £8 to include a hot supper but bring your own drinks. Contact Jill Heale, 893596.

Wandlebury

BY the time this issue goes to press it is expected that a public meeting will have been held on Monday 26th January at Stapleford Recreation Ground to discuss the many changes being made to staffing and site management at Wandlebury. For more information contact Julia Napier, 213152 or frfdjin@freebie.net or look on the Cambridge News website
Editor

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The Derbyshire Post



THOSE of you who have visited the College or driven past in the last few weeks may well be wondering why it is that we have wrapped up the 1930s listed building like a parcel. Well it is long story but I will try to give you a brief account.

For years the windows in the listed building have been a headache. In 1937 they were beautiful: made by Crittall with the most up to date technology, they looked shiny, operated with precision and folded out in a French window-style to allow the children of rural Linton to sit outside, close to their classrooms, on sunny days. For the first 30 years of their life they performed like this but in the 1970s, 80s and 90s they began to rust, hinges broke, fasteners dropped off and they fell into disrepair. Attempts were made to paint them and this resulted in windows that were fused with rust and gloss. Eventually most became unusable.

Unfortunately by this time the building and the windows had gained *Listed* status and using standard education funding it was not possible to replace them. Last year, however, the Academy gained a large grant to enable us to replace the windows with Crittall units that looked virtually identical to the existing ones. Twice, however, South Cambs refused to approve the replacements. It was infuriating. We finally had the money to fix a 50 year old problem and we were not being allowed to put the solution in place. What we have been allowed to do, however, is strip them right down, repair the originals and then repaint them. This is a timely and costly business. The money we have been awarded has to be used by April, so the work needs to happen now in the coldest part of the year. To enable this to happen, a plastic tent is covering the building to keep the windows free from wet and frost while the work takes place. All of this sounds idiotic doesn't it... but it is as it is. By April we will, at least, have windows that work and also look back to their shiny best.

Caroline Derbyshire, Principal

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

S/2811/14/FL & S/2812/14/LB Mr & Mrs W Bickerstaff, **The Guildhall, 4 Church Lane.** Removal of modern brick chimney. Removal of 20th Century lean to extension. Single storey pitched kitchen extension and single storey flat roof boot room extension.

S/2949/14/DC Mr R Fairey, **Little Linton Hall, Bartlow Road.** Details required by condition 3 (sample materials) of listed building consent ref: S/2066/13/LB.

S/2965/14/VC Mr R Fairey, **Little Linton Hall, Bartlow Road.** Variation of condition 2 of planning permission ref: S/2065/13/FL to substitute approved drawings with amended drawings to show revision of roof finish.

S/2953/14/FL Mr & Mrs S Belsham, **68 Finchams Close.** Part single storey and part two storey front extension and new access to dwelling on the side elevation.

S/3011/14/FL Mr Calver, **2 The Furrells.** Single storey pitched roof front extension.

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The Way We Were

by Garth Collard

Amy Hall in the High Street



Home of the Salvation Army for many years

Picture from Garth's collection

NUMBER 51 High Street was the Salvation Army chapel from 1886 until the 1980s. Before the chapel was built there had been an earlier chapel on the site where the Primitive Methodists held their meetings until the early 1880s. When the chapel was changed into a house the builders discovered the bricks and stone walls of the foundations of an earlier, smaller chapel.

The Primitive Methodists were very active in Linton and the surrounding villages. Their Minister came out from Saffron Walden to hold services. The movement spread rapidly as the evangelical services appealed to young people.

Worship registers in the County Records Office showed the number grew to over 1,300 by the 1840s. The Anglican vicars, Edmund Fisher and the Rev Brett were alarmed by the new sect. They wrote in the Cambridge newspaper; "The over zealous sect had grown to such a pitch during the past week as to become a source of ridicule and disgust. Their conduct in many cases is extravagant and unholly in the highest degree. Youths aged 14-18 are almost compelled to offer something in the form of prayer and they have forgotten that to approach

the Almighty you should do so with reverence and godly fear and despise the warning that God is a consuming fire." The inflammatory rhetoric of the vicars led to local youths breaking the Primitive Methodists chapel windows and there were frequent scuffles in the street between worshippers and local youths. In March 1852 two worshippers were charged with

assault against a group of local lads aged 14-18. The movement declined rapidly between the 1850s to the 1870s.

By 1886 the sect was in decline and was eclipsed by the arrival of the Salvation Army, also evangelical but not as threatening. The Army attracted many youths with an active Sunday school and offered worshippers the opportunity to

play instruments in their band. The Salvation Army was a very popular body in the village and there are a large number of photographs of their band led by Mr Suckling, the motor and cycle retailer and repairer at 22 High Street. The Army built chapels in most of the villagers – the Weston Colville chapel had 180 seats.

By 1886 the Salvationists were renting the chapel site and eventually bought it in September 1919 for £120 when it was described as made of brick and slate with dimensions of 30ft x 18ft. The Salvation Army band played through the streets at every event and held an open air service in the recreation ground. On Armistice Day the band led the procession to the cemetery playing the death march.

There were two officers in Linton who also looked after the West Wickham chapel. They resided in the Army house at No 9 High Street, next to the Crown, and sometimes they rented a cottage opposite which was pulled down to build the town houses.

The hall was up for sale for about two years and eventually sold in October 1991 for about £40,000 to be converted into a house – now called Amy Hall.

Mystery of Linton Girl Guides photograph solved

THANK you to the three people who contacted me about the picture published on page 6 of the January issue under *The Way We Were*.

Nanette Blackmore writes; "I believe the photograph was taken in the Old Rectory garden, Church Lane, the very large house now privately owned, that stands alongside the Infant School. In the foreground you have the Guides, with the graveyard and front of the church behind them. A wall has been built since the photograph was taken.

I recognise Miss Samuels standing in the middle on the back row. Miss Samuels, was my teacher when I was six years old. I remember the grounds as the church held fêtes with maypole dancing, and when the Rev Harry Crichton came to

Linton the children all played in the grounds. When he acquired the church pavilion this would have been positioned to the left of the picture in 1959/60".

Nanette also remembers that Miss Kitteridge, (we called her Miss Ketteridge) took the children from five years old, and there was a sand pit and slide in her classroom.

"Our parents sent us to school with an old sixpence to buy a saving stamp. She held the book until it was full up, then it was given to our parents who cashed it at the Post Office.

Toilets were at the corner of the school playground with only a bit of a corrugated tin roof over the toilet. They were just brick walls and bucket toilets. The boys used to wee over the wall as a cheeky thing

to do.

I remember Miss Samuels telling us that the horse chestnut tree in the playground was planted by her brother and it was very big. Another tree has replaced it and is more or less in the same place".

Jean Whitby, says the person in the middle of the 2nd Row is Miss Dyball who lived near the URC church in Great Abington and was the District Commissioner.

Vivian Spranger advises that the picture appears in the Hildersham Cambridge Community Archive Network website (Hildersham.ccan.co.uk) with the description of "Linton Girl Guides assembled in the vicarage garden at 3 Church Lane. Their leader was Miss Mercia Purkis", and the contributor appears to be Garth

Collard.

Jean also lent me a picture taken in 1946 of Guides camping in Great Abington.

Third from right in the front row is Vera Cracknell, subsequently Vera Backler. The tall lady in the back row (second from right) is Miss Dyball. Jean is on the end of the back row.

Kate France 891602



Camping at Great Abington

Picture supplied by Jean Whitby

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Parish Council Matters Flood plain

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

DRIVING from Haverhill along the A1307, the first sight of Linton is across the soft landscape of Leadwell Meadows. These water meadows belong to the parish and hold overspill from the River Granta, to prevent flooding; it is essential to the village that these and neighbouring fields remain as our flood plain.

There is a recently approved parish council scheme to remove scrub, clear ditches and re-dig the ponds in this area. This is part of the regeneration of our flood plain, and although further measures are planned, these depend upon South Cambridgeshire district council (SCDC) research, support and grant funding. The letter from Sarah Hurcum reminds us that volunteers can be part of this regeneration, as guided by the SCDC ecology officer, Rob Mungovan.



Picture by Anne Meeks

Leadwell Meadows beyond the field viewed from Bartlow Road on entering the village from the east

Rather than channelling water away as quickly as possible (eg by dredging river beds downstream); environmental management engineers now advocate measures which act to slow the water down in upstream areas. Leaky dams made of wood and debris can be created to hold back excessive rising water, then allow it

to flow out gently after the surge has passed. Banks and bunds can be created to contain the water upstream of the village. We are planning to build these!

We will soon be working on the recreation ground to create a sacrifice area and recreate the earth banks to protect the pavilion. The ditch will be re-dug to help drain water on the path and from Meadow Lane. Restoration of river banks can be considered, to encourage water flow away from the village centre and not create meanders (Cllr Bald has recently re-woven her own bank). Small measures throughout the village can have a big effect. Of course we will forget this when we have a drought, so weirs must be maintained to help preserve our fish.

Planting and managing trees and bushes can also help reduce flooding, and Linton parish council has an ongoing planting strategy. A mature oak tree will drink 50 gallons of water a day, and the root system of a mature tree will assist water infiltration into the soil 60 times more effectively than roots in grazing pasture. Even a single tree can do a lot to manage water run-off. These arboreal measures will never be enough to prevent flooding in themselves but by reducing the immediate impact, they can increase the effectiveness of any protective measures you might use to defend your own home.

Linton's flooding issue lies with the upper catchment areas beyond our parish - our valley acts as a funnel for rainfall to the east - and land management practices affect the water entering the Granta and the village. Linton's local farmers practice good land management, ploughing across the hill sides and actively planting trees to slow run off rates (also producing willows for our cricket bats). Our Neighbourhood Plan can have no impact on distant hills, but we can take this opportunity and plan our own defences.

Tree planting is not a panacea for flood prevention but can be an effective addition to wider measures to slow floodwater at its peak. The Neighbourhood Plan questionnaire asked about environmental measures and future land use; trees can be the vanguard of natural flood management as part of the Neighbourhood Plan.

Cllrs Beatrice Ward and Enid Bald

Trees

THERE has been a lot of activity at the green heart of Linton - yes, the tree team have had their annual review! Susan Anderson has recently stepped down as tree warden, but remains as the much revered consultant, Beatrice Ward has taken on the role and Enid Bald does grant applications and hole digging.

This year we are working on the cemetery, removing dead and diseased trees, replacing strimmer damaged Rowans, adding spikier boundary hedge planting and landscaping the old pond area - this has been a planned project for many years, but thanks to our village handyman, Ian Blackman, is now coming to fruition. This used to be a dumping ground, but this will no longer be tolerated (please note!) - it will be a landscaped area, to delight us as we travel up Coles Lane. Scrub, weeds and a dead shed will be cleared, seating added and the drying sections of Lime trees will be used as an arts project, to create a peaceful area.

The parish council will soon be reshaping and resurfacing the road/path around the cemetery, as it is becoming hazardous. We hope to commemorate WW1, and a history project will document all of those too poor to be buried with their name - another legacy of the rural poverty that, unexpectedly, also

helped us preserve our historic buildings (we did not have the money to develop the centre of Linton - fortunately).

The planting scheme at Paynes Meadow, to reduce anti-social behaviour and increase safety, will continue. The Ash trees will be replaced as they might be infected with Chalara - please check your own trees for the distinctive dieback and diamond-shaped lesions. We are working with South Cambridgeshire district council on the responsibilities for trees in Rivey Lane. The ancient hedge is in need of management and regeneration.

Trees will be managed and planted to balance the corner of Parsonage Way, and the recreation ground will see areas cleared and more trees planted - can anyone source a Black Mulberry?

Oh yes, we are closer to having a Community Orchard... This could be part of the regeneration of the land behind Crabtree Croft, on the corner of Symond's Lane. Plans are being drawn up and consultation will begin, but perhaps another area can soon see signs of improvement.

Improvement does not always mean expansion and building - it can also be the appreciation of the natural and beautiful.

Tree team



The Hundred Parishes Society

LEAFLETS explaining the scope and rationale behind the Hundred Parishes initiative are now on display in the majority of libraries, museums, churches, pubs and tea rooms throughout the hundred parishes. We were delighted with the positive reaction from those we asked to display them. Our principal aim is educational - in particular to spread the word about our area's rich heritage. Our charitable objects do not allow us to promote tourism,

but we recognise that if we are successful in raising the profile of the Hundred Parishes then it may indirectly bring extra visitors to some of the 260 places that now display the leaflets.

When distributing leaflets we were pleasantly surprised to find that the number of tea rooms has been increasing, with over 20 around the area. On our website, within the introductions to individual parishes, we try to keep the list of pubs, tea rooms, etc updated so that

visitors know what to expect, whether they are exploring by car, bike, horse or on foot. By visitors, we don't just mean people from outside the area but also residents getting to know the area better. With pubs regularly closing and reopening, if you know of a recent change of circumstances, or spot that any of our information needs updating, please let us know by using the website's feedback form.

We also ask for your help to keep our What's On page

up to date. We hope that event organisers will benefit from the extra publicity we can give for an event that encourages appreciation of the area - perhaps a history society talk, a cultural event, a walk or a conservation exercise.

Of course, keeping What's On, etc updated is a waste of time if nobody looks at it, so please check out our website www.hundredparishes.org.uk Ken McDonald - Secretary Hundred Parishes Society

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Councilminutescouncilminutescouncilminutescouncilminutes

ABBREVIATED minutes of the parish council (PC/LPC) meeting held at the Cathodeon Centre on Thursday 18th December 2014.

Present: Enid Bald (EB) (chairman); Paul Poulter (PP) (vice-chairman); Simon Hill (SH); Brian Manley (BM); Graham Potter (GP); Jan Bumstead (JB); David Lissemore (DL); Nicola Miller (NM); Brian Cox (Dr)(BC); David Champion (DC); Merrie Mannassi (MM); Beatrice Ward (Dr)(BW). Clerk: Marilyn Strand (MS). District councillor Henry Batchelor and Kate France (press) were also in attendance.

Apologies for absence: Councillors Alison Walker and Jacque Wilson. District and county councillor Roger Hickford.

Declarations of interest: SH declared a personal interest in the update on allotments item.

Councillor vacancy: There is still a vacancy for a councillor to be co-opted onto the PC. Some interest has been shown and an application might be received in the new year.

Chairman's comment: The Christmas Market, held Saturday 13th December, had been very successful. Congratulations to all involved in organising this lovely village event.

A recently attended Community Funding Fair had been very useful. Grants are available from several sources including Awards For All and AmeyCespa.

It has been noted by the PC that archaeological digs are taking place on fields located off the Bartlow Road. No current planning applications for development on these sites have been submitted.

Public participation: Cllr Brian Cox spoke on behalf of a resident who was unable to attend the meeting, on the matter of the installation of a green service cabinet at the entrance to Chalklands. The resident is unhappy that the cabinet has been placed directly in front of the Chalklands commemorative stone.

Approval of the minutes of the meeting held on 20th November 2014: The minutes of the meeting held on 20th November were approved and signed by the chairman with the following amendment under the street lighting project item: "... would consider paying for heritage lighting dependent upon final costs and an accurate quotation of these will be obtained from Balfour Beatty". Proposed by DL and seconded by NM. All agreed.

Matters arising from the minutes of the meeting held on 20th November: Under a correspondence item NM reported that the deadline for working with Vodafone on its rural open sure signal programme for the village had been missed. However Linton will be considered in Vodafone's next round of this programme and NM is happy to act as 'village champion' when this goes ahead.

Under the matters arising item plans are in progress for flood prevention works on the recreation ground, however this work will not be started until the weather is drier to prevent damage to the grounds.

Under the district councillors reports item BW and EB had met South Cambridgeshire district council's (SCDC) ecology officer regarding trees and tree works, including a potential Community Orchard, and a report will be sent to councillors before the next meeting.

Under the cemetery update item the Cemetery Working Group has commissioned Paul Orton to draw up draft plans for the road and west side of the cemetery. Once these are completed and agreed quotations for the work will be progressed.

Reports from district councillors: Cllr Batchelor had sent a report which was circulated before the meeting and highlighted that the Community Chest Grants scheme had reopened. Applications for the grants must be submitted to SCDC by the second week of January 2015.

PP asked Cllr Batchelor about the changes to s106 grants for developments of fewer than 10 dwellings (as announced in the Chancellor's Autumn Statement) and whether SCDC will be challenging the changes. Cllr Batchelor will enquire and feedback to the PC at the next meeting.

EB asked that district and county councillors keep the PC informed of anything which might have an impact on Linton, and that more information sharing between the different tiers of

councils would be of benefit to all.

Report from county councillor: Cllr Hickford had sent a report which was circulated before the meeting and this was noted.

Clerk's report: The National Association of Local Councils (NALC) has recommended a 2.2% increase to its pay scales for clerks. This is the first percentage pay rise for over two years and for this reason, NALC had also recommended consolidation payments to be made of £114 (pro-rata). It was agreed to accept the pay increase and consolidated payments for the clerk and interim clerk. Proposed by DC and seconded by BC. All agreed.

It was also agreed to apply the same increase and consolidated payments to all other LPC staff. Proposed by BM and seconded by DL. All agreed.

The clerk reported that the gullies at the Cathodeon Centre had been cleaned by Bagnall & Morris Waste Services (Norwich) free of charge. A letter will be sent to them on behalf of the PC thanking them for their help in this matter. The gullies had been blocked and this had caused problems with flooding when heavy rain fell.

The clerk highlighted an article from Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Association of Local Councils (CAPALC) Community Funding Fair entitled 'Parish Councils Rising to the Challenge - An Opening Address to Conference by Steve Criswell'.

Appointment of committee representatives: DL asked to join the staff sub-committee. However, this decision was deferred to the next meeting so that the clerk can check Standing Orders for the correct composition of this committee. Action: clerk to check on LPC's Standing Orders regarding the composition of the staff sub-committee.

DL also asked to join the finance committee. This was proposed by BW and seconded by NM and agreed by the meeting.

Cllr Jan Bumstead joined the meeting.

Update on the Local Plan: PP reported that SCDC's proposed new Local Plan (LP) had not met its five year housing supply. Because of this it is currently under review and the earliest it may come into force is late Autumn 2015.

The existing LP will continue to afford Linton some protection from development and any planning applications for developments will be tested against national guidelines. However, the revised LP is needed to ensure that Linton's current opposition to the development of its Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA) sites is maintained. The PC expect planning applications to be made by developers over the coming year whilst the finalised LP is awaited.

Update on the Neighbourhood Plan: PP reported that the first consultation paper is due to be distributed with the January edition of the Linton News (this is delivered between Christmas and New Year). SCDC had given its final comment on the paper last Friday. PP gave an explanation of the consultation paper to the meeting.

It had been necessary to progress with the printing and distribution of the consultation paper in order to meet strict deadlines. The cost of printing is £218 and the cost for distribution is £100. Retrospective approval of these costs was agreed. Proposed by BW and seconded by DL. All agreed with one abstention.

PP proposed to obtain quotations for employing a consultant to advise on the development of the NP and this was seconded by BW. All agreed.

PP also proposed to obtain quotations for the creation of a new PC website incorporating the NP. The PC's current website administrators will be asked to provide a quotation also. This was seconded by DL. All agreed. DL, NM and JB will help with this. Action: clerk/PP to arrange a meeting with DL, NM and JB to discuss the requirements of the website and to obtain quotations to create a new one.

Update on traffic issues: BM had sent a report which had been circulated before the meeting. It was agreed to action all points on the report. Proposed by PP and seconded by SH. All agreed.

Action: clerk/BM to write to Dalehead Foods regarding its sign on the A1307.

Action: BM to progress with approaching residents regarding the setting up of a Speed Watch scheme.

Update on Allotments: A meeting with the Diocese has been arranged for 8th January 2015. SH will not attend due to his declared interest in this item. The letter drafted by EB was considered by councillors and it was agreed that it should be sent to the Linton Allotment Association as soon as possible. Action: clerk to prepare the draft letter for sending and to send it as soon as possible.

Street Lighting: Cllr Merrie Mannassi joined the meeting during this item. Further to the planned street lighting programme by Cambridgeshire county council (CCC) and Balfour Beatty, a discussion took place regarding the possibility of choosing to install heritage style lanterns within the conservation area (specifically, the High Street). The PC would be required to pay the difference in cost between the existing standard columns and the heritage columns which is approximately £1,400 per column. It was stated that this is a good opportunity for the village to install lanterns more sympathetic to the conservation area. However not all councillors agreed that this was a good use of public money. The proposal to replace all 26 columns at a total cost of £36,400+VAT was made by DL and seconded by BC. Councillors voted three in favour and seven against with two abstentions and the proposal was not carried.

The PC then considered the possibility of installing some heritage style columns in the most prominent part of the conservation area. The proposal to install up to 18 heritage columns at a total cost of £25,200+VAT was made by BW and seconded by SH. Councillors voted seven in favour and four against with one abstention and the proposal was carried.

The Windsor style lantern was agreed to be the most appropriate for the village as it reflects the style of lights in the High Street in the 19th Century. Proposed by BW and seconded by SH. Councillors voted seven in favour with five abstentions and the proposal was carried.

A decision on exactly which lanterns will be replaced for the heritage style will be deferred to a working group meeting to which all councillors will be invited to attend.

It was agreed that a statement be prepared by the PC to members of the public outlining its reasons for making this decision.

Action: clerk to arrange a working group meeting and to contact Keeley Russell at Balfour Beatty with details of the heritage lanterns the PC wish to order.

Trees: EB & BW had sent a report which had been circulated before the meeting and this was noted and accepted. Action: clerk to contact the PC's grounds maintenance company to ask them to deal with the epicormic growth around trees on the recreation ground.

Street furniture: There is some concern that green service cabinets have been installed in various locations around the village without consultation with residents or the PC, and that some have been installed inappropriately to the surrounding area, for example, in front of the Chalklands commemorative stone. The PC has been advised that these boxes serve to provide statutory services and that no consultation with local authorities is necessary. Cllr Batchelor will seek clarification on the service cabinet at Chalklands and feed back to the next meeting.

Written reports: Communications: EB had sent a report which had been circulated before the meeting and this was noted. The clerk will consult with other PCs regarding the timing of sending out draft minutes to all councillors following meetings.

Planning forum: EB had sent a report which had been circulated before the meeting and this was noted.

Correspondence received for consideration: It was agreed to accept the invitations from Hundred Houses Society to the official opening of the old police houses site on 15th January 2015.

A resident regarding street furniture outside Swan Cottages. The Traffic Working Group are already looking into the possibility of removing one of the posts in consultation with CCC. Action: clerk to contact the resident regarding the progress of this.

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

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