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England women's cricket captain comes to Linton



THE captain of the England women's cricket team rolled into Linton last month, with two of her teammates, to spend the day coaching promising young cricketers at Linton Village College and Granta School.

Charlotte Edwards MBE first played for England while she was still a teenager in Cambridgeshire. She led England to World Cup success in 2009 at both 20-over and 50-over cricket and is widely admired throughout the game. As well as continuing to play

cricket for England, she works as an ambassador for Chance to Shine, a charity which promotes cricket in schools. Her visit to Linton, with World Cup-winning colleagues Lydia Greenway and Beth Morgan, was organised by Chance to Shine.

The three cricketers spent an entire day coaching students in the nets, as well as signing autographs and photos. Everyone was impressed by their enthusiasm and positive attitude, and the girls who were lucky enough to meet them

came away inspired. 'It was an experience which I will never forget to have a coaching session with top-class England cricketers,' said Rebecca Livermore, 14, a member of the LVC year 10 girls' team which has won five indoor and outdoor county championships and came within a whisker of reaching a national final at Lord's last year.

"This is a fantastic reward for the many years of girls' cricket at LVC," added head of PE John



Left, LVC girls along with Charlotte Edwards, Lydia Greenway and Beth Morgan and above Charlotte gives Annabelle Green some tips

Pictures taken by Ron Pitkin

Maddock. "The ultimate goal is to establish a girls' or women's team playing cricket in the Linton area." This is already starting to happen as the year 10 girls' team, coached by former LVC student Sam Hawley, has started training with the Linton Village Cricket Club and is hoping to play in one of the local leagues next year. With role models like Charlotte Edwards, girls' cricket in Linton is really flourishing.

Tony Kelly
Tony.Kelly@lvc.org

Goodbye to our editor

AFTER almost ten years our editor has decided to call it a day and this month is the final issue that she will oversee.

We now need a new editor with the enthusiasm and commitment to see the Linton News become even better than ever. Are you that person?

You will have a very able and willing team behind you but you will need to have a regular commitment each month to get the Linton News through the doors of everyone in Linton, Hadstock, Bartlow and Hildersham so they are not disappointed.

We are now in the 26th year of this very popular paper and it would be a tragedy for it to fold for want of an editor.

The team is willing to take on the role for the next couple of months but after that the paper will fold if a suitable person is not found.

If you can help please email the address at the top of page 3.

Hadstock's annual village fête

HADSTOCK'S annual village fête is just around the corner and it looks like being another fantastic day's fun.

Visitors to the village are often amazed how this small community can put on such a fantastic event that attracts over 1,000 people and raises thousands of pounds for the maintenance of St Botolph's parish church and the village hall.

As usual there will be swingboats, helter skelter and other old fashioned fairground attractions, stalls and games. Also a tombola, local produce stalls and all the things that go to make this such a great traditional village fête.

The fête covers a huge area of the village, with teas and cakes in the village hall and then spreading out to the village green, churchyard and even several private gardens. Hadstock Silver Band will entertain the crowds through the afternoon and the classic car show is a big hit with people. The auction is always very popular, with brewery visits and other great lots up for bidding.

The events start at 1.30pm on Saturday 15th June, it really is a wonderful day out for all the family and is a real must for the diaries!

To end the day in style the village then gathers at The Kings Head pub for a 70s and 80s Disco to celebrate all their hard work in style. The party starts at 8pm and continues until midnight.

David Taylor

Fête and Flower Festival....

THE annual Fête and Flower Festival – 21st to 23rd June – hosted by St Marys church, will soon be here. It is sure to be a weekend filled with fun, food, festivities and, of course, flowers. The theme this year is *From the Bookshelf*, and the flower team have many creative ideas that will not fail to impress. The church will be open all weekend for viewing of the displays. The festivities on Camping Close begin on Friday evening with a Barn Dance in The Big Marquee. The Liam Robinson Ceilidh Band will provide music and caller. A BBQ is included in the ticket price (£7.50 per person, £4 for under 16s, under fives are free). Tickets are available from Sweet Talk News. There will be a bar selling alcoholic and soft drinks.

Linton Jazz will open the activities on Camping Close at midday on Saturday. Activities for children include games, bouncy castle and a train. There will be stalls to buy homemade crafts, bottles and plants. An experienced auctioneer will value any antiques you may have. The ever-popular teddy bear jump will take place at the church as usual. The festival restaurant is open in the school all day Saturday, and there is a BBQ and bar on Camping Close. Sign up for *Linton's Got Talent* on Saturday evening in the church and show the village what you can do. The Duck Race will take place after Church on Sunday (around 11am). Linton Village College Wind Band will bring festivities to an end on Sunday in the Church at 3pm. Please see the enclosed flyer for specific timings of events. We look forward to seeing you there!

Joanne Griffiths

... and books for the flower festival please

THE Linton Flower Festival will be taking place on 21st to 23rd of June. The second-hand bookstall is open as usual on the Saturday and raises much-needed funds.

All the books are donated and all the proceeds go to the festival. If you can spare any books, they can be left in the box at the back of St Mary's Church, or give me a ring and I will come and pick them up. Children's books are especially welcome.

Bruce Hunt, 892490

Village hall improvements

A RECENT building audit of the village hall has revealed that a number of improvements need to be made to bring the building up to modern standards.

The hall is a village asset but these improvements are beyond the financial capabilities of the present trustees and as the hall is a registered charity, and therefore non-profit making, we have little in the way of financial reserves. We are therefore looking for suggestions as to a viable way forward.

An example of the work required includes a complete refurbishment of the kitchen to meet current health and safety and hygiene requirements. A copy of the full report can be inspected at the village hall by arrangement with the secretary.

It has been suggested in some quarters that any major housing development in the village might provide funds for a new hall, but in the trustees opinion any such funds are uncertain both as to timings and amount, and should not therefore be relied upon.

If the hall is to continue in use and be updated the village as a whole will need to contribute either ideas or money or both. We would therefore appreciate your suggestions to this end. These should be directed to the secretary at the village hall in Coles Lane or telephone 891001.

The village hall trustees

One person's weed is another person's medicine



Are these weeds
in my garden?
Surely not!

Picture taken by
Kirsten Newble

MEDICAL herbalist Julie Dore greeted the gardening club with its first ever health warning for slides, warning that we may become severely distressed by the images that followed. Fortunately I was safe as the weeds displayed during her fascinating talk, 'One person's weed is another's medicine', are to be found growing abundantly in my garden!

Many common weeds including dandelion, daisy, nettle, stickyweed, plantain, shepherd's purse, ground ivy and even the dreaded couch grass are all things to be glad of in your garden in the eyes of Julie. Each plant was covered in terms of its nutrients, edibility and health benefits. Salads may never look the same! However, before reaching for a colander in which to dispose of your weeds, check that you have correctly identified an edible weed or dire consequences may await.

A handy hint if you are being eaten alive one summer's evening in the garden is to rub the broken leaves of herb robert on your skin. The juice is a natural insect repellent, though it may not be the sweetest scent in the garden.

Fortunately the rain held off for the plant sale which was a wonderful success. Thank you to everyone who generously gave their time, plants and produce to make this possible.

The 71st Annual Show is at 2.30pm on Saturday 27th July in the village hall. Schedules giving full details on how to enter are available from 9 Balsham Road (near the post office) and 3 Mill Lane. Do come and join in the fun. Entry is open to everyone.

Kirsten Newble, 892425
lgcsecretary@yahoo.co.uk

Too good for jumble...

A BOY'S Wolf cycle for three-five year olds; a pine top trestle table with fold-up metal legs and a Dell pc and keyboard plus Philips monitor – no hard drive – all in excellent condition are new items this month. Further items on offer include a modern wooden carver chair in excellent condition; a comfortable older upright fireside chair and two fireside chairs in need of covers; a patio heater, table model Hi-spot Minitec with refillable propane gas cylinder 19in high and a pair of Hilarys blinds - wooden slatted forest green - totalling 5ft sq.

The bath panels raised £25 for the East Anglia Air Ambulance and the pine chest made £20 for WaterAid.

To buy any of the above or to offer an item to profit a charity, please phone Kate France 891602 or email kfrance@profsoundconsult.com.

NB: The donor chooses the charity to receive the money



Mrs Smelik with the nine pupils who sit on the Library school council
Picture take by Jennifer Malone

THOUGHTS FROM THE GRANTA RANTA

The opinions expressed in this article are not necessarily those of the LN team. If you would like to rant in this paper please contact the address on page 3.

AT LAST, the sun has come out and stayed for just a little longer than a few hours. It's warm, the birds are singing, the bees buzzing (thankfully) in the flower bed and so, having completed a few chores, off I trot to the garden to sit for a while and enjoy the peace and tranquillity.... ah but no ... the neighbours have other ideas.

As soon as the sun comes out, so do the DIY brigade! Now, I know that jobs have to be done, and some in dry and decent weather. I also appreciate that lawns need mowing, strimming and other outdoor pursuits need pursuing.

But why oh why must they be done on a peaceful Sunday afternoon? Half the time these are villagers who are retired, do not work during the week and have plenty of time to spare.

But, oh no, they must do it on a quiet afternoon. I suspect there are those who lie in all morning, only to find their machinery itching to be dragged out once they have dragged themselves from their pit and had their fry-up.

Now, I am not being a misery but would it not be possible to complete all the hammering, drilling, strimming, mowing, sawing and so forth during the week (if possible), or in the mornings so that some of us could enjoy a little peace on a weekend afternoon?

When I was a child, no one would dream of cutting their lawn on a Sunday afternoon, or any other noisy pursuit for that matter.

Oh bring back those peaceful days of long ago - but then of course, mowers had a comforting whirring sound, there were no such things as strimmers either and everyone was too full of Sunday roast (ah, the smell in the street was wonderful), or listening to Educating Archie, I suspect.

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A new page with library revamp



EVERYBODY at Linton Heights is very excited about the recently approved design of the soon-to-be revamped school library.

Working on this project are nine pupils who sit on our Library School Council (see picture), Mrs Smelik, members of the PTFA and a working party made up of parents and governors.

With help from the PTFA, the school has invested in a new library system and our next goal is to fill the shelves. Several people have already donated books and funds towards books and some tablets.

To start the fundraising effort, the Dangerous Dads completed a 50-mile cross country cycle on 18th May, culminating at The Heights .

In addition to this, the PTFA is organising a fun-filled summer fête which is taking place on 12th July. The fête will be packed with traditional activities such as apple bobbing, guess the number of sweets in a jar and welly-flinging.

Proceeds will go towards our new, modern library opening in the beginning of the next academic year (September 2013).

Later this term, we are holding a fundraiser to increase the amount of books we can gain, ready for when our new library opens.

It will include activities throughout the school day for the children to enjoy the many wonders of reading.

Emily Fox, Isobel Cory & Lauren Edwards

Just enjoying the present ...

THE school has been a hive of activity with our new topic Flick of a Switch sparking some very imaginative ideas among the children.

Our corridor displays are very interactive and the children can be heard all over the school discussing inventions.

May is always a busy time in schools, not only in the classrooms but behind the scenes as well as we start to prepare for the academic year.

We will be welcoming our new parents later in the month when they will find out all about our fantastic school.

Later the children will come in for some storytime sessions to meet their teachers and new classmates.

After seven years teaching at Linton Infants, Katy Bootman has decided to move on to pastures new. Katy is loved by the children and will be greatly missed by colleagues.

However, I am pleased to announce that we have been very lucky in recruiting Miss Emma Stinton to replace Katy. Emma joins us from the Meadow school in Balsham and will bring a wealth of expertise and skill with her to enhance our school even further.

This is traditionally the term when the classes get out and about and this year is no exception. We have trips to Anglesey Abbey and all sorts of other exciting trips.

The behaviour of our children is always perfect on days such as these and the teachers are very proud. We always seem to be looking forward. Sometimes it would be nice to stand still and enjoy the 'now'.

Louise Clark

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PLODDING ALONG
An update on police matters

Thieves target car tools in series of break-ins

LINTON seems to have had a bit of a crime series from 16th -17th of April when vehicles were broken into and it would appear that on these occasions tools were the target.

There were four separate crimes reported during this period. We subsequently carried out high visibility patrols and conducted numerous stops.

Also in April, a burglary was reported at a utility premises on Back Road, Linton. The rear door appears to have been kicked in and an alarm ripped off the wall. No goods were stolen.

Burglars also struck again at the village hall a few days later. They managed to get in but this time our offenders left some blood behind for us. This will be checked against our national database and further investigations carried out.

The day after the village hall crime, a further burglary was reported in Coles Lane, when a house was broken into and jewellery stolen.

In an emergency, when a life is in danger or there is a risk of violence or serious injury or when a serious crime is being committed, please call 999. For all non-emergencies, please call 111.

PCSOs Pulley and Fisher

Wasting your day on journey of discovery

CAMBRIDGESHIRE county council would like to thank residents throughout the county for recycling 54 per cent of your waste, putting us well above the national average of 39 per cent and on track to meet our target of 60 per cent by 2020.

You may have heard of problems at the Mechanical Biological Treatment (MBT) plant in Waterbeach, built to separate and process black bag waste.

When working the plant pulls out items which can be processed, halving the volume of waste sent to landfill and also captures greenhouse gas emissions.

Unfortunately this machine suffered serious mechanical failure in September 2012. Work is underway on the new parts required to rebuild the machinery and to prepare the plant for installation, due for completion before the end of 2013.

The breakdown at the MBT only affects black bag waste and we urge you to continue to recycle as much as possible through your normal household recycling service. This reduces both the amount of waste going to landfill and demand on natural resources.

Be assured that the Private Finance Initiative contract the county council has in place with the MBT contractor means the authority, and therefore council tax payers, are protected from any additional costs incurred by the breakdown.

Find out more about the 'Journey of Waste' at the annual recycling open day from 10am-4pm on Saturday 13th July at AmeyCespa's Waterbeach site, just off the A10 between Cambridge and Ely.

Take a guided coach tour of the site; join a walking tour of the new materials recycling facility; enjoy plant and vehicle displays; find out how to reuse and recycle more of your waste and join in activities for all the family. Entry is free.

For information about the recycling open day, phone 861010 or visit www.recap.co.uk.

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Readers write...

Post and email addresses and deadline for letters 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.

Chilford 10K run cancelled

Dear Editor

Sadly there won't be a 2013 edition for Chilford 10K. Despite many attempts I didn't manage to secure insurance cover for the event.

The safety and security of the runners is paramount.

I will keep you posted on a further event.

Thanks for your support.

Stephane Toussenet

Chilford 10k@gmail.com



Making People *Smile*

Full marks for Linton care scheme

MEARS Care, who provide care to 42 people living in their own flats at Nichols Court in Linton, have just been awarded full marks by the Care Quality Commission (CQC) the body that inspects and regulates care services in England.

In an unannounced routine inspection the CQC assessed the team who provide personal care to residents. The following five areas were assessed: respecting and involving people who use services, care and welfare, management of medicines, staffing and assessing and monitoring the quality of service provision. CQC awarded Mears top marks in each of these categories.

The CQC spoke with people who use the service with one person stating: "The care staff give is very good, they fall over backwards to help". Another commented: "Staff are very good, very helpful and very patient".

The CQC report following the visit stated that staff were recruited well, with all required checks in place before they started their employment. Staff undertook a thorough induction, which included working alongside experienced staff and undertaking training in relevant topics so that they were equipped to carry out their role. Care planning documents were written in a personalised way and gave staff detailed guidance on the care each person required to meet their needs. Charlotte Whitehouse, Care Manager at Nichols Court said: "The team work really hard to provide the best possible care and support. We are delighted that the CQC has recognised what we do and has awarded us top marks".

Amanda Oswald, External Communications Manager

Recruitment day at the fire station

WE have already welcomed applications and would encourage anyone to get in touch if they think being an on-call firefighter is for them.

Local business Chilford Hall has shown its support for the recruitment campaign and we are encouraging other businesses in the village to do the same by allowing their staff to be released for on-call duties when needed.

A recruitment open day will take place at the station from 10am until 3pm on Saturday, 8th June.

Information will be available including requirements, assessments and training.

Those interested can take a look at firefighting equipment and speak with on-call firefighters based at Linton about their experiences.

Recruitment officers from the service will also be on hand to answer questions.

If you are unable to attend and would like more information please log on to www.cambsfire.gov.uk/recruitment or call 01480 444500.

Leanne Ehren



Makeover fun for the ladies

OUR speaker this month, Mrs Wendy Marshgreen, gave an enjoyable talk on the Art of Accessorising, telling us how others almost instantly get an impression of us from our appearance, mainly by studying the head and neck area. She demonstrated on one of our members how the correct neckline can flatter a particular face shape.

Wendy had brought along several plain garments and showed how the addition of the right piece of jewellery enhanced the outfit. She also showed us different ways to wear scarves, emphasising the need to scale the pattern to body size. This also applies to jewellery and belts. When

choosing accessories always consider your body size, big chunky jewellery and wide belts are a no-no on a small person.

We learned of the five personality types - romantic, dramatic, classic, natural and gamine, and Wendy produced a scarf and piece of jewellery to suit each style.

We had fun perusing before and after photographs in which, to the amazement of our members, people were barely recognisable after a makeover.

Our next meeting is on 4th June, the talk being by Mrs Mary Dicken entitled Mediaeval Women.

Sally Proberts

Mobile warden service

THE Linton Community Warden Service provides support to people aged 60 and above enabling them to live independently, whether in their own homes or in sheltered accommodation and now residents in Chalklands, Palmers Close, Tower view, Nichols Court etc can join the scheme, too.

The service can be on an ongoing basis or for temporary periods eg following hospital discharge or when the family is away.

The scheme is professionally run. It is managed by Age UK Cambridgeshire and is funded by Linton ACE's and our local councils with a small charge to the client.

The warden makes contact with the client every weekday, either by a personal visit or by telephone. From this, it can be established what assistance is needed - potentially preventing a crisis from occurring.

The service helps clients to feel secure, knowing that they will have support and regular contact with a familiar face. It also gives their families peace of mind.

The Warden can assist with:

- regular contact and a listening ear
- information and guidance
- checking and helping with safety and security
- collecting prescriptions
- small items of shopping
- making drinks and light meals
- feeding pets, watering plants and similar help

If you are interested in finding out more about the Linton Community Warden Service please contact Venetia, the Community Warden on 07931 852019.

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THE LINTON NEWS Next Publication 3rd July 2013

DEADLINES for ADVERTS Monday 10th June

NEWS ITEMS Wednesday 12th June

ITEMS FOR ADVERTISING MANAGER

Limited space on waiting list for Linton businesses

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

ITEMS FOR THE EDITOR

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

Editor: Fran Armes email: lneditor@linton.info
phone 891517

For distribution queries contact: Kate France 891602

LINTON DIARY

For entry in this list, ensure that your event is written into the diary in the Post Office, failure to do so could mean non-entry to the diary here.

Please refrain from putting commercial/business dates into the Linton diary, these will not appear in the Linton News.

Only dates for clubs and groups will go in.

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 elsewhere in this edition.

WEEKLY

Cricket practice sessions, Sunday, 1pm & Thursdays 6pm	LVC
Conkers childrens' centre, 9.30am-12.30pm, Wed-Fri	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)	
WEA, Tuesdays, 10am, term-time	VH
Scrabble club, 10am-12noon alternate Tuesdays	CP
Linton Granta toddlers, 9.30-11.30am Tuesdays	LVC
Granta bridge club, 2pm Tuesdays	VH
Table tennis club, 7.30pm Tuesdays	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
Bowls roll-ups, 2pm, Wednesdays until October	Pavilion
Linton radio race car club, 6-10pm Wednesdays	VH
Carpet bowls, 7.30pm Thursdays	VH
Bumps to babies, 1.15-2.45pm Thursdays	CC
Parents, carers and tots Mocha house, 9.15-10am Fridays	CP
St Mary's church choir, 7-8.30pm Fridays	St Mary's
Bridge club, 7pm Fridays	CC

For sports centre courses please call LVC sports centre on 890248

JUNE

1 Farmer's market and arts & craft market, 9am	LVC
1 Thaxted Morris men, 10am	Crown PH
1 Thaxted Morris men, 11.15am	King's Head, Hadstock
3 Camera Club, 7.15pm	CC
4 Storytime, 2pm	Library
4 WI, 7.30pm	VH
5 Reading group, 8pm	VH Upstairs room
6 Luncheon club, 12noon	Old Red Lion, Horseheath
6 Parish Council meeting, 8pm	CC
7 Cricket Club race night, 7.45pm	Infant School
8 Fire service recruitment day, 10am - 3pm	Fire station
11 VIP Group, 2pm	Chalklands
12 Summer fete, 5-7.30pm	LH
13 Hops & grapes, 7pm-11pm	LVC
15 Hadstock fete, 1.30pm	Hadstock
15-16 Open Studio, 11am to 6pm	Hadstock
18 Storytime, 2pm	Library
18 History Society, 7.30pm	VH
19 CAMTAD, 9-12noon	HC
20 Doctor's Surgery - closed pm	HC
20 ACEs Garden Party, 2pm-5pm	7 Symonds Lane
21 Bartlow Music concert, 7.30pm	Bartlow Church
21 Open Day, 11am-4pm	Symonds House
21-23 Flower Festival	Infant School & St Mary's Church
22-23 Open Studio, 11am to 6pm	Hadstock
22 Variety Show, 7pm	St Mary's Church
25 Scrabble Club, 10am - 12noon	CP
29 Summer fete, 1pm-4pm	Granta School

JULY

1 Camera Club, 7.15	CC
2 Storytime, 2pm	Library
4 Parish Council meeting, 8pm	CC
5 Friends of St Mary's Safari supper, 6.30pm	Various

For Cathodeon Centre bookings contact Sue Mudge, 07765 369266

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

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

Linton refuse collection: 3rd, 17th June & 1st July

Linton recycling collection: 10th & 24th June

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THE objective of Linton Listeners is to provide a safe space and a listening ear to anyone in the community who needs to talk in confidence without interruption or being given good advice about issues and problems which may be troubling you. The type of disciplined reflective listening offered helps to enable you to express and clarify your thoughts and feelings. This often leads to being able to shed light on the heart of a problem and discovering strengths along the way which help you to address your own issues. Sometimes you may feel you need more expert support and we help to refer you if necessary. We offer 40 minute sessions and will match you to a suitable team member and provide a safe location in which to meet. This service is free to Linton and the surrounding villages.

The team believes that good listening empowers us all through the ups and downs of everyday life. Good listening promotes life and health, and makes a difference to ourselves and others.

It's not about us. We won't talk about ourselves even if you ask us to. We're there to give you time, space and support. We don't impose any personal attitudes or beliefs on you.

Listeners are CRB checked, adhere to Safeguarding Policies, and attend vital training in order to develop good attitudes and skills in listening.

Please call us on 07554712974 to make appointments weekdays between 9am and 6pm. We will do our best to answer messages asap.

Jane Whitmore

Sue Walker opens her studios



Above: Sue in her studio and right one of her paintings

Pictures supplied by Sue Walker



SUE Walker is holding an Open Studio event at her studio in the garden of Yew Trees Farmhouse in Linton Road, Hadstock as part of Saffron Walden Open Studios.

Sue's paintings will be on display as well as a range of prints and cards. The studio will be open from 11am to 6pm on the weekends of 15th -16th June and 22nd -23rd June. Everyone is very welcome to drop in.

A supply of free guides giving details of all the participating artists will be available from Saffron Walden Tourist Information Centre, and Sue at www.suewalkerart.co.uk or 07967152532 Sue Walker

Growing old disgracefully

WE all know of people who, as they grow older, stop working, abandon hobbies, cease socialising and generally sink into inertia - leading to premature death, probably from boredom. I once lived in Bognor, where many people retire to the seaside away from friends, and deteriorate faster than blossom in frost.

Rex Freeman's splendidly amusing talk included stories of such decline and how to stop it by Growing Old Disgracefully. His solution? Take up fresh interests, start new hobbies, meet different people, but keep contact with old friends. Be active and never stop learning. Dare to experiment.

Rex was a fine example at well over 80, running charities for young artists and singers and still playing tennis. Now he uses his left hand due to arthritis. He is still singing solo and in

choirs. Life should be fun. To waste it really would be a disgrace.

Before the talk Melanie Murdoch from AgeUK updated us on the work of the community warden. This is a scheme to help older people remain living independently in their own home and is now open to those in sheltered housing, such as Chalklands. Then we enjoyed our posh ploughman's.

The next event is a Garden Party from 2-5pm on June 20th with cream tea, bring and buy, raffle and stalls. Bring the umbrella - this is England. It is at 7 Symond's Lane in my garden. I intend to grow old disgracefully - but that might not hold true for the weeds.....

Events are for all older people. Lifts available.

Enid Bald 891069

The bowls season has started

THE bowls season has already begun and Linton Granta Bowls club has started the weekly roll-ups held on a Wednesday afternoon from 2pm until 4pm.

We would welcome new members, no matter what age. We have a member who is a qualified coach and he is happy to coach individual players any evening, Saturday afternoon or Sunday afternoon. If you are interested in learning to play, contact Andy Eagon on 893309

Members of the club have the use of the green, not only on a Wednesday but at any other time of the week.

The bowling green is situated in the recreation ground at the rear of the football pavilion and we have an agreement with the football club to share the facilities in the pavilion.

The green is an all-weather carpet and is easier to bowl on than the usual grass. Bowls are available for use and there is no strict dress code, just flat shoes or trainers.

If anyone is interested in joining us, they can either come to the weekly roll ups or contact me on 890047 or Bryan Beavis on 893391.

Laurie Boniface, secretary

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Summer fête at Granta school

THE Friends of Granta School, Linton would like to invite everyone to their annual Summer Fête from 1pm to 4pm on Saturday 29th June at Granta School. The special needs school in the grounds of Linton village college.

This will be a traditional school fête with all the usual stalls including barbeque, cakes, homemade jams, tombolas, white elephant, secondhand toys and books, lucky dip and raffle. Some of the pupils from Granta School have also been growing plants and producing items to sell.

All money raised will be used to provide the school's students with equipment and activities which would not be available to them from the school budget alone. Recently the Friends (FOGS) provided funding for pupils to take part in an integrated arts project with St Faith's school and the Castle school and are presently making plans for a whole school activity day. This will include visits to the school from a travelling farm, a laughter therapy group and a storyteller as well as school run activities.

For further information please contact me on 01799 528107 or Annette.leeman12@gmail.com.

Annette Leeman

Linton Health Centre news

WE have a few staff changes to tell you about this month. Dr Yash Uttarwar is leaving us in July after over four years as a partner. She had her first baby last summer and has decided that the demands of a partner in a modern general practice are such that she felt that she was missing out on time with her young son. She will work as a locum GP in the Cambridge area, which fits in so much better with a young family.

As one door closes, another opens as they say and Dr Reem Al-Shaikh is going to take up a full-time partnership from the 1st August. Dr Al-Shaikh has been a salaried doctor with us for over a year now and is

looking forward to being more involved in developing the practice as a partner.

Another change is that Liz Bowden, practice nurse, is marrying and moving to Nottingham. It is a bit too far to commute, so we wish Liz all the best in her new life up north.

Best wishes to Mel Kemp who retired from the dispensary at the end of May (a little early it must be said). Mel is looking forward to a relaxing break before being enticed back to provide some holiday cover for us in the summer. Lastly, we welcome Esperanza Anstee who is joining the dispensary team in June.

Dr Wheeler & Partners

Promoting new enterprise

THE only response to our plan to promote new enterprises was from Fine Design Engraving – Maureen Williams' new metal, acrylic and wood engraving service.

Having invested in a new machine, Maureen (the Linton News illustrator) is offering logos, designs and inscriptions for sports trophies, medical IDs, house and garden signs. These new facilities complement her work in commercial and personal glass engraving.

To find out more contact Maureen on 893514 or website www.finedesignengraving.co.uk

Is your new enterprise in Bartlow, Hadstock, Hildersham or Linton? For a brief feature in the Linton News why not contact the editor by leaving a note in Linton Post Office box or emailing the address on page 3.

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The Morris dancers at a previous year’s performance
Picture Supplied by David Taylor

Linton Country Diary by Darryl Nantais

Illustrated by Maureen Williams

A Countryfolk fusion of diary and poetry

WHAT if the English stopped drinking tea?
How would that affect the economy?
No time for thoughts like these when
weather is fine enough for bees!
And so we fly on rubber air and dare not tire
too soon,
or care which unmade road will carry our load
on round balloons.

These Linton routes are famed by few,
yet Romans marched and sure they knew,
that one day threat come not with shield,
but from the houses that we
build.

Now, sure enough this
summer’s eve’
we sped along
down to a clump
of trees
that John
once told
was only
high as
knees,
and that
was over
sixty years ago,
I’m pleased!

We small band call it by Crow Bridge
to cross a place named Glass Bottle Ridge,
yet further on before the ranch
you’d miss them if not keen of glance,
wild hops hang deadlly from the branch,
an estrogenic lance!

The bumpy ride,
synthetic hide
decidedly disturbs the bushy fauna
as we arrive at Wolf Tooth Corner!

Here, you might if weather’s right,
chuck into reeds to hide the bikes

and settle for a snack and tea
and dig for signs of our history.

The river here with shallows and pools
is ideal for our boney tools
to sift through gravel, mud and chalk
and discover things about which to talk.
An iron nail or copper lid
and even teeth I do not fib,
and once discussed a human rib,
oh’ honestly I not you kid!

As sun descends without a breeze,
with light lost due to blooming
trees,
‘tis more lively things we’ve come
to see
that have us bending on our knees.

With Hildersham a little out of
sight
and the outlet plashing clean and bright,
‘tis just ahead we hear a shout
as someone spots a handsome trout.

They fly through air at nine, twenty five,
shimmering silver as they dive
or plop with fly, a dinner so
- for these what make them fishes grow!

But how are we to know what’s what,
for you cannot judge ’em by their plop,
so sometimes study those colours to note
they really are just common roach.

Then, there’s the shimmering clock dish hover-
ing above the farm and cows and clapper gate.
Monet bridge and pathways to groan
where, if not too late
with tea and scones to decide,
if not too tired,
where next to ride and roam,
revealing the secrets of this dear place -
Linton, our home.

The Thaxted Morris dancers are coming to Linton and Hadstock

THE Thaxted Morris tour returns to the area on Saturday 1st June with clubs from Chalice, Colchester, Dolphin and Moulton visiting two of our local pubs.
The Crown in Linton will be the first stop of the day arriving for 10am before moving on to The King’s Head in Hadstock, where they will perform between 11.15am and 12.15pm. The pub itself will open at 11am.
The Morris Ring only comes to Linton and Hadstock every two years now, so come down and watch a great example of English tradition.

Thaxted with its large annual Morris weekend and its strong connection with Thaxted church is regarded as the spiritual home of the Morris. Thaxted vicar, father Jack Putterill, son in law to Conrad Noel, was a Squire of Thaxted Morris Men and an offer-tory dance is always performed in Thaxted church on the Morris Ring Sunday, a ritual now performed at Ring Meetings across the country and abroad.

What is happening with Linton post office?

ON 12th March Linton post office was bought by Sweet Talk News. Linton post office provides service to over 6,000 people including nearby vil-lages
Opening hours have changed to 8.30am to 5.30pm Monday to Friday including Wednesday, when it closed at 1pm, and Sat-urday 8.30am to 12.30pm.
The new owner has noticed an increase in footfall and to help our customers we are also launching a new post office banking service.

Major changes are that the Bartlow Road Sweet Talk Express will be moved to the post office site and provide more retail services. Cigarettes, alcohol and essential groceries will be sold with their own dedicated counter to reduce queuing, as well as a specific post office counter to speed up that service.

We are requesting Linton public to help us maximise the parking outside the post office to assist customers who just want to drop in and go. Kindly avoid parking the whole day, which will help us as a business, as well as pensioners and the disabled who may find parking difficult and have to walk from further away.
We hope Linton residents will continue their on going support.
Ajay, Sweet Talk News

POT POURRI 99

The French holes left unfilled

DURING the French revolution, soldiers were made to dig holes, then fill them in again.
If 2,000 soldiers dug the holes and then the following occurred:-
The 2nd soldier was made to fill in every 2nd hole.
The 3rd soldier then went along and filled in every 3rd hole, if filled, he dug it out again.
Then the 4th soldier went along and filled every 4th hole or dug it out if was filled.
This carried on with every remaining soldier.
eg The 2nd soldier would fill in holes 2,4,6,8... etc.
The 3rd soldier filled in hole 3, dug up hole 6 which was filled in by soldier 2 and filled in hole 9 etc.
Thus after the 5th soldier had filled hole 5 he unfilled the 10th hole. (This now stayed unfilled always).
How many holes were left unfilled?
Solution to 98 - How many tiles lie on a diagonal?
The solution involves factoring 86 and 150, then removing the common factor (=2) and using the remaining factors by addition, minus 1 then multiply by the common factor (2).
Thus the diagonal string covered 234 tiles.

Urania

NEWS IN BRIEF

The world’s biggest coffee morning

Each year the village hosts a Macmillan coffee morning in the village Hall on the last Friday of September to raise money for this cause, to give people Macmillan time.
Last year I coordinated it and thanks to a huge amount of help we raised nearly £600. Unfortunately it will only happen again if I have the same amount of helpers on the day, cakes baked and people coming to chat and raise money.
If you would be willing to help please drop me an email. I know there were other coffee mornings in the village which were incredibly successful so if anyone wanted to join up that would be wonderful.
I look forward to hearing from you.
Fiona Tideswell, fionatideswell@hotmail.com

Symonds House open day

WHAT is a care home for the elderly all about? What does a Day Care Centre offer for our elderly community?
Symonds House Care Home is having an Open Day from 11am-4pm on 21st June. Meet, greet and join us for coffees/ teas and some cake.
Maria

Horseheath country fair

HORSEHEATH Country Fair will take place at Horseheath point to point racecourse from 10am to 5pm on Sunday 7th July.
Attractions will include beer and tea tents, BBQ, food fair, falconry, gundog demonstrations, hound parade, tug of war, pony show, gymkhana show jumping, terrier racing and East Anglian hound show.
Entry will be £5 for adults £2.50 under 16 years and free for under fives. For more information go to www.thurlowhunt.co.uk
Joanna Saunders

Please, please, please contact us at the address on page 3 if you can help us as an editor, not too much to do but would suit someone at home or a part-time worker

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Register of Exercise Professionals



The Derbyshire Post



WHEN Linton Village College first opened in 1937 it was equipped with a number of contemporary features which included metal Crittall windows. The windows were a revelation. The ones surrounding the bowling green were hinged to fold out, allowing children to spill out onto the steps underneath. They brought a sense of light and space to the classrooms, something previously unheard of in school design. This feature really suited the rural children of our villages who enjoyed the outdoors and fresh air.

As the years passed the windows rusted, hinges became broken, the paint peeled away and attempts to patch them up resulted in fused doors and unworkable fittings. When I became principal the windows were in poor repair, rooms were draughty in the winter, hot in the summer and the peeling paintwork was an eyesore. However as they were listed they had to be replaced with like for like which would cost half a million pounds and that was simply not affordable.

Once the new building work was completed in 2011, we had the frames meticulously filled and painted, so at least they did not look so dreadful but the practical flaws remained.

Imagine my delight, therefore, when a bid to the government for their replacement was successful as was a bid to replace all the flat roofs. In addition money raised by the friends of Linton Village College will allow the hall to be re-plastered and painted. It will be lovely to see the old building get the attention it deserves, once more.

Caroline Derbyshire

Festival of beer and wine

THE Friends of Linton Village College have been going from strength to strength following their resurrection nearly two years ago. Their main focus for fundraising has been the refurbishment of the main school hall. As with many schools this has not been a priority. The limited amount of funding they get has to be spent elsewhere. But as many of you will be aware it is really pretty grotty due to it having been in constant use for years, not only as a school hall but as the largest community hall in the area. The Friends have now almost raised enough money for the hall to be transformed. It will get new curtains both windows and stage, the floor will be mended, the walls decorated and a state of the art sound system installed. It will become a hall both the school and community can be proud of.

Our next event to try and raise that last little bit is Hops and Grapes – a festival of beer and wine. There will be beer from a local brewery and a selection of wine. It takes place from 7 – 11pm on Saturday 13th July at the village college and tickets are priced at £10 each to include Hog Roast and two drinks, local band Crimson Shadow will be there to provide the entertainment.

Tickets are available from Charlotte –890270 or LVC reception.

Please support us in what should be a great evening out.

Charlotte Foster

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The Way We Were by Garth Collard

Linton military medals

PRINCE Charles recently came to East Anglia to present medals for bravery to soldiers who had served in Afghanistan. Many medals were awarded to Linton servicemen during the Great War and to some from nearby villages. One soldier from Balsham, Captain Raymond Evelyn Head, stood head and shoulders above all others for his outstanding bravery.

He was the youngest son of Dr Robert Head, the Balsham GP. He was home on leave from India where he served in the Assam Regiment of the Indian Army. When the war broke out in 1914 he immediately joined the Royal Dragoons as an officer and later moved to the Royal Liverpool regiment. He married in November 1915 and the couple had a son.

In mid 1916 Captain Head served in the Ypres area and in June 1916 took part with the Canadians in the successful storming of the German stronghold on Vimy Ridge.

This is now an important Canadian memorial site. Captain Head was awarded the Military Cross (MC) for "conspicuous gallantry when leading his bombing party in an attack on the German trenches. When he could proceed no further he made three blocks in their trenches and held out under heavy fire until he was ordered to retire." He was badly wounded in the attack and returned to England to recuperate. Having briefly served in Ireland he returned to the Western Front in May 1918

when he was again wounded.

In August 1918 the Liverpool regiment was moved to the Somme sector and for his actions at Delville Wood he was awarded a bar to his MC for "conspicuous gallantry and leadership in a raid on the German trenches." He was pinned down for two nights and at great personal risk selected routes for future attacks. Captain Head was again badly wounded but commended by his commander for the splendid leadership of his men. He was shipped back to England and died in a military hospital at Hounslow on 24th November 1918.

Captain Head was awarded a second Military Cross, the Bar signifying the two awards. Before the war he was well known locally as a good athlete, cricketer and tennis player.

Many Lintonians had been awarded the Military Medal and the Military Cross but none had been wounded so often or were recommended so many times for their outstanding bravery.

After the war the Head family moved to Watford where his widow Margaret brought up her young son.

The only Linton man awarded the MC for his bravery in storming a German redoubt in the Somme are-a concrete bunker with machine gun slits-in September 1916 was 32 year-old Arthur Victor Dyson of the Coldstream Guards. He had been at the Front for one year before his death. His father Edward was manager of Linton Co-op.

Chef's corner

Pasta carbonara

- 8 bacon rashers
- 500g pasta
- 4 eggs
- 1¼ cups cream
- ½ cup parmesan

Remove the bacon rind and cut into thin strips. Cook over medium heat until crisp. Drain on paper towel.

Cook the pasta in a large pan of rapidly boiling salted water until al dente. Drain well and return to the pan. Beat the eggs, cream and parmesan together and season well. Stir in the bacon. Pour over the hot pasta in the saucepan and toss gently until the sauce coats the pasta. Return to a very low heat and cook for about 1 minute or until the sauce thickens. Don't increase the heat or the eggs will scramble.

Season with black pepper and serve immediately with extra grated parmesan.

Charity football match raises over £500 for Parkinson's UK

THE fifth annual charity football match in memory of Alf Hughes from the village took place on Sunday 28th April on the Linton recreation ground. A good crowd turned out to watch Linton Granta vets win 2-1 with a last minute header by Alan Jones following strikes from Ashley Dellow and Jonathan Milne.

A post match BBQ and

raffle, along with player match fees and generous contributions from Linton Granta football club, Aztecs Junior football club and Crem Recruitment helped to raise £568. The event has now raised just short of £2,000, which has gone to help Parkinson's UK (parkinsons.org.uk) find a cure for the disease.

Alf was heavily involved

with boys' football in the village before his life was cut short by Parkinson's in 2008. Parkinson's is a progressive neurological condition that affects one in 500 people in the UK.

The Hughes family would like to say a big thank you to all those who played and spectated, those local companies, such as the Dog and Duck and Linton Tandoori, who donated raffle prizes and to Peter Belson and Tony Saunders, the organisers.

Stuart Hughes

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

S/0813/12/FL Dr Frank & Fiona Reimann-Gribble, 18 Bartlow Road, Two storey side extension and additional window on first floor.

S/0814/13/FL Mr Peter Stutz, 21 Back Road, Proposed extensions

S/0817/13/LB Dr Frank & Fiona Reimann-Gribble, 18 Bartlow Road, Two storey side extension and additional window on first floor.

S/0835/13/FL Aztecs Junior Football Club, Linton Village College, Proposed equipment store and relocation of existing shed.

S/0851/13/FL Mr Howard Sutton, 2 Bakers Lane, Single storey extension and porch.

S/0965/13/FL Mr Justin Yates, The Lindens, Hadstock Road, Two storey side, single storey rear extensions.

S/0997/13/LD Ms Anna Wilbrey, 1 Pembroke Lane, Loft conversion and rear dormer.

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Parish Council Matters Chairman's annual report

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

THE parish council chairman's annual report was as follows:

Recreation ground & pavilion

Last May the rules for the recreation ground parking were finalised and adopted, and parking provision at Linton village college was received the next month. The recreation ground is now included in the QEII Fields Challenge Jubilee Fields scheme.

Linton Granta football club required a 10 year lease for grant applications and this was agreed last month.

Late last year it was agreed to update the CCTV system at the pavilion. Cllr Penfold took the lead role for this and we now have a much more sophisticated system.

Allotments

Also last May there was a public meeting held to discuss the need for allotments and for the parish council to provide the land for allotments. In June the allotment association was formed. Also in the summer it was agreed, together with advice from South Cambridgeshire district council (SCDC), not to continue with negotiations for either previously offered site as both landowners were asking way beyond the amount that a public body could reasonably pay, even with a hefty premium added. All previously confidential information was then put into the public domain.

In November the allotment association gave the parish council their preferred site ... the field adjacent to Lonsdale along the Horseheath Road. The parish council then learned the same piece of land, identified by the allotment association and owned by the Diocese of Ely, was being closely looked at for development.

The Diocese was informed of our interest in the land for allotments, and it was discussed by the Diocese of Ely investment committee. They arranged a meeting with the parish council for March, but this was subsequently cancelled by them. The current situation is that the parish council has agreed to compulsory purchase the land, but must receive an official written response of decline from the Diocese for purchase of the land. For this a valuation must take place. In the meantime, the latest we have heard from the Diocese is that they are sympathetic to our allotment needs, but are waiting comments from Cambridgeshire county council (CCC) highways about any potential development.

20mph

In June CCC highways drew up the proposed plans for the 20mph speed limit for the High Street and one-way system. The speed limit came into force in November.

Play equipment

David Walker continued in his quest of updating and replacing and providing new play equipment. David secured grants from

various sources, and also received a contribution of £1,065 from the Dangerous Dad's group. The official opening for the new play equipment was held in September, and many residents and children and parish councillors attended. Again I would like to acknowledge the effort put in by David on this project, and it shows just how much can be done by individuals in conjunction and with the backing of the parish council.

Youth services

In January there was a presentation from the Rev Dr Steve Griffiths, and the parish council continues to support and be in partnership with the Beacon Trust to provide non-faith youth services and outreach work.

Bus services

Local bus services are being looked at due to cuts from CCC. Although the number 13 service is not being directly affected, other local services feeding into it and being used by Linton residents are. The meetings are still continuing, Cllr Wakley is representing Linton parish council and I and other local councillors are participating. There will be another public consultation and meeting very soon.

A1307

This parish council is heavily involved in the A1307 steering group, with me, Cllr Cornell, Cllr Manley and Cllr Champion all participating at some point. The outcome of the meeting is well documented, but I would like to thank Cllr Cornell for all her help in the preparation for the meeting.

Housing

Linton is preparing for an expansion in its social housing stock. SCDC are building four one-bedroom houses in Chalklands, and Hundred Houses have been granted permission to build on the old police station site. I, along with others on the parish council, welcome affordable housing for the village, but have concerns about the extra traffic this particular development will generate on the A1307.

Grants

The parish council has received grants from SCDC of £1,000 for tree planting and £500 towards the cleaning and restoration of the war memorial.



Before and after: refurbishment of the war memorial

Pictures taken by Sue Parry

Speed checks

The parish council requested monitoring equipment for Back Road, Horseheath Road and Balsham Road. The results have only recently been received, but initial analysis suggests severe speeding and rat-running.

Public consultations

Following the successful consultation last year on recreation ground parking, the parish council is currently seeking consultation on width restrictions in Back Road and parking outside the Co-op. The consultations finish at the end of April and the two issues will be looked at again by the parish council in May.

Cllr Roger Hickford

Award winning website helps find equipment to assist you in maintaining your garden

WITH the warmer weather finally here you may be thinking about getting out in your garden. If you are, an award-winning website can provide you with help and advice about the equipment available to make day-to-day tasks in the garden easier.

Help and support with day-to-day living

AskSARA has proved popular with local people since

a Cambridgeshire version launched last year. So far it has helped nearly 4,000 people across the county access advice and information about the equipment and support available locally to help them remain independent and in their own homes. In addition to maintaining the garden and outdoors, a wide range of topics are covered from managing medication and eating healthily

to equipment to aid hearing, personal care and household chores.

This year June 17th – 21st is falls awareness week. AskSARA can also help you to find equipment to help prevent falls at home and when you are out and about.

Whether you need advice for yourself or for a friend or relative that you care for, you can find out about the equipment

available by visiting AskSARA at www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/asksara

For anyone without access to, or not confident in using, the internet the staff and volunteers in your local library can help you to find information.

Adult social care, quality & transformation team, Cambridgeshire county council

LINTON PARISH COUNCIL

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Cambridge CB21 4JS Tel: 891001

Clerk to the council – Mrs Sue Parry
Email: lintonpc@btconnect.com

Website: www.lintoncambridgeshire-pc.gov.uk

**Office hours: Monday 9am–12noon and
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Councilminutescouncilminutescouncilminutescouncilminutes

ABBREVIATED minutes of an extraordinary meeting of the parish council held upstairs at the village hall on Thursday 4th April 2013.

Present: R Hickford (chairman), Ms E Cornell, Ms T Hunt, B Manley, G Potter, P Poulter, K Wakley, Mrs A Walker, Mrs J Wilson and Mrs S Parry (clerk). One member of the public was also in attendance.

Apologies for absence: Councillors Champion, Cox and Mannassi. Councillors Bald, Dew and Penfold were also absent.

Matters arising from the minutes of the meeting held on 21st March: Under the pavilion lease update item, Cllr Manley confirmed that a copy of the draft lease had been sent to the Football Association to support the bid for funding. Cllr Manley also reported that a capital grant of £18,094 had been proposed from South Cambridgeshire district council (SCDC) for the pavilion refurbishment.

Consideration of the options available to resolve an administrative error whereby the Localised Council Tax Support Scheme (LCTSS) was not deducted from the final precept figure requested from SCDC: To fund the LCTSS the government will give the local authorities a new fixed grant equivalent to 90% of the cost of the current benefit scheme. For this coming financial year the district council would pay 100% of the shortfall as a grant to parishes to compensate for the loss in tax base. Next year it would only be funded 75% of the shortfall and nothing the year after. The shortfall figure for Linton was £9,792 as calculated by SCDC.

As a consequence £9,792 had been over claimed resulting in an extra average council tax increase of £5.88 per household over the year – around 11p per week based on a Band D house.

To address the error SCDC had advised that one of the following options was available: 1) SCDC could invoice everyone again and this would cost the parish around £8,000. 2) SCDC could refund everyone and this would cost around £2,000, but would be complicated due to those moving in and moving out of the village during the year. 3) The parish council could decide to raise the precept by £9,792.

After much discussion Cllr Potter proposed that the precept be raised by £9,792 to £168,128. The proposal was seconded by Cllr Wakley and resolved by the meeting.

Cllr Cornell proposed that £9,792 be ring fenced to be spent on community projects and not on normal council business. The proposal was seconded by Cllr Hunt and resolved by the meeting.

It was agreed that an article be written for the Linton News to fully explain how the error had occurred, the options available and the parish council decision.

ABBREVIATED minutes of the meeting of the parish council held upstairs in the village hall on Tuesday 23rd April 2013.

Present: R Hickford (chairman and district councillor), Mrs E Bald (vice chair), D Champion, Ms E Cornell, Mrs S Dew, Ms T Hunt, P Poulter, K Wakley and Mrs S Parry (clerk). Mrs K France (press) was also in attendance with two members of the public.

Apologies for absence: Councillors Cox, Manley, Potter, Walker and Wilson. Councillors Mannassi and Penfold were also absent.

Consideration and approval of statement of accounts and annual governance statement: The statement of accounts for year ending 31st March 2013 was approved and signed. The annual governance statement for year ending 31st March 2013 was completed and signed.

Allotments update: The clerk had issued a report following guidance from the South Cambridgeshire district council (SCDC) legal department. A quotation had been requested and received from the district valuer for the land adjacent to Lonsdale. Cllr Cornell proposed that council accept the quotation to deliver a report within approximately four weeks of instruction at a cost of £550+VAT. The proposal was seconded by Cllr Wakley and resolved by the meeting.

Written reports: The following written reports were noted: Tree warden meeting and tree policy from Cllr Bald. Village hall

from Cllr Hunt. Notes on the meeting with residents of Dovehouse Close by the clerk.

Correspondence received for consideration: Cambridgeshire ACRE had given notice of a reduction in government funding resulting in redundancies and changes to their services.

The Friends of the Roman Road and Fleam Dyke had requested a link to the parish council website. Cllr Cornell thought this to be an excellent idea and proposed that this be agreed. The proposal was seconded by Cllr Hunt and resolved by the meeting.

A resident of Paynes Meadow had requested a reduction to the height of two trees in Rivey Lane which were shading her garden. Advice had been sought from Karen Champion - county council rights-of-way officer, Roz Richardson - SCDC tree officer and Rob Mungovan - SCDC ecology officer. They had advised that SCDC did not own the land and therefore they could not give permission. Rob Mungovan had advised that no work should be undertaken until the nesting period was over. It was agreed to investigate who owned the land and to report back to council.

ABBREVIATED minutes of the meeting of the parish council held at the Cathodeon Centre on Thursday 9th May 2013.

Present: R Hickford (chairman, district and county councillor), Mrs E Bald (vice chair), D Champion, Ms E Cornell, Dr B Cox, Mrs S Dew, Ms T Hunt, B Manley, P Poulter, K Wakley, Mrs A Walker, Mrs J Wilson and Mrs S Parry (clerk). Mrs K France (press) was also in attendance with seven members of the public.

Apologies for absence: Councillors Mannassi and Potter. Cllr Penfold was also absent.

Chairman's comments: Cllr Hickford reported that he would be stepping down as chair and as a member of the parish council and this was his last meeting.

Public participation: A resident of Bakers Lane, referring to the minutes of 21st March, asked what could be done regarding the condition of Bakers Lane as it was not known who was responsible for its upkeep. The clerk would contact the county council rights-of-way and access team to try to determine ownership.

Consideration of the minutes of the planning meeting held on 23rd April: These were noted. Under the decision notice for S/0292/13/FL, 30 High Street, condition 5 stated that no more than four seats within the shop and two seats outside the shop would be permitted for the consumption of food and/or drink on the premises. Cllr Manley asked what could be done to increase this amount of seating. The planning committee had already contacted South Cambridgeshire district council (SCDC) regarding this issue and the response had been that the condition was considered necessary as the amount of seating proposed was considered to be the maximum that could be accommodated under the A1 (retail) use applied for. If more seating was proposed this would need to be assessed as either a mixed use (A1 and A3 (restaurant/café)) or solely an A3 use. However the operator was aware that should they wish to increase the amount of seating they would need to apply for another change of use to the premises, where other issues would be considered including a covenant on the property that restricted its use.

Consideration of the revised code of conduct: Cllr Hunt proposed that it be adopted. The proposal was seconded by Cllr Bald and resolved by the meeting.

Consideration of the responses to the traffic consultations: These were discussed. **A) Co-op scheme:** Mr Malone, a resident of the High Street, believed that the main problem was the increased size of the Co-op delivery vehicles. Buses had to mount the kerb to pass and this was very dangerous. The Co-op was creating this nuisance resulting in a health and safety issue. When exiting Green Lane it was impossible to see any oncoming cars. In his opinion the only real solution was for the return to smaller vehicles and for enforcement of parking restrictions. Cllr Cox reported that Linton had the narrowest High Street in South Cambs and therefore low kerbs had been installed so that vehicles could mount the pavement if necessary. The chair stated that the installation of CCTV had been raised by some residents and if installed it would highlight the problem and show the need

for enforcement.

It was agreed to investigate CCTV in liaison with the police.

It was also agreed to arrange a meeting with the Co-op and their distributors, Mr Malone and Mr Foster representing the residents and Cllrs Champion and Manley.

B) Back Road scheme: Mr and Mrs Newble, residents of Back Road, believed that the main problem was not caused by agricultural vehicles but excessive speed and over the past 18 months by large vehicles connected to the recent developments in Back Road. They thought that a weight limit which excluded farm vehicles would be more beneficial. The chair replied that in the first instance the parish council had suggested a weight limit but as this was difficult to enforce the county council had suggested a width restriction. Cllr Cornell stated that SCDC must implement a planning policy to safeguard Back Road. The county council should raise the profile of Back Road in view of the high usage figures recently received and discourage rat running. Maintenance should be raised in line with usage. Cllr Manley suggested pull-in or passing areas with priority to oncoming vehicle signs. It was agreed that county councillor Hickford would investigate a weight limit and priority and pull-ins.

Traffic, police and safety issues: The results of police speed counter tests in Horseheath Road, Back Road and Balsham Road were considered. Cllr Cornell agreed to work on the format of the information received to make it more user friendly. It was agreed to set up a meeting of the traffic working party and a police representative to discuss these figures and Cllr Champion would highlight the issue at the next police panel meeting.

The installation of carriageway markings instead of countdown signs in Hadstock Road following advice from the county council was considered. County councillor Hickford agreed to liaise with the county council highways department on this issue.

The clerk reported on the attempted break in at the parish council office on 11th April and confirmed that a man had been arrested. DNA evidence had led to his arrest from blood found at the scene and he would appear in court later that month. The Sawston police were thanked for their contact and support during this time.

Consideration of lease between the parish council and Linton Granta football club: This was signed. Cllr Manley reported that the football club had applied for grants for the pavilion refurbishment from the Football Foundation and Sport England, both for £50k.

Allotments: Confirmation had been received from the district valuer that the valuation report would be available for the next meeting on 23rd May. This would be discussed under confidential cover.

Written reports: The following written reports were noted: CPRE meeting on national character areas from Cllr Bald. Summary village college survey results from Cllr Walker. Cemetery meeting from Cllr Bald.

Correspondence received for consideration: Wicksteed Playscapes had asked for consideration of replacement or refurbishment of the aerial runway and to consider replacement of single point aerial swing following scheduled play equipment inspection by Zurich. Cllr Cornell proposed that a replacement trolley assembly be fitted at a cost of £961 (including fitting) and the single point swing be removed for safety reasons. The proposal was seconded by Cllr Wakley and agreed by the meeting.

The request from Aztecs football club to use the recreation ground on Friday 5th July was agreed subject to receipt of a risk assessment.

Update on designated area consultation with neighbouring parishes: Cllr Poulter reiterated the decision made at a previous meeting regarding possible collaboration with Hildersham and Bartlow parish councils for a neighbourhood plan. The clerk confirmed that Bartlow parish council was very happy to meet to discuss this. Cllr Poulter planned to attend the Hildersham parish council meeting when it would be discussed.

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

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