

Garden club's annual
plant sale
10am-12noon
Saturday 14th May
at 3 Mill Lane

Established 1987

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THE LINTON NEWS

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

May
2011
Vol. 25 N°2
Publication date
Monday 2nd May

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



Trailing around ...



Villagers gather in the sunshine beneath the village sign to start the first guided tour, beginning a weekend of guided tours following the trail around the centre of Linton. Top left, a map of the Heritage Trails.

Picture provided by Mike Gee

In your own time ...



Bruce and Janet relaxing in their garden

Picture by Georgina Page

Village stalwart Bruce celebrates 90 active years

DR Bruce Campbell Conochie MBE celebrates his 90th birthday next month. He was born in Glasgow in 1921 spending all his school years there and graduating from Glasgow University in 1944.

After working in various hospital departments he spent two years in the Royal Army Medical Corps (RAMC), first in India for six months, looking after the health of East African troops awaiting repatriation after fighting in Burma, then on to Nyasaland (now Malawi).

He was the Regimental Medical Officer looking after a regular battalion of the 1st King's African Rifles. The work was not too arduous so Bruce and his wife were able to explore the countryside together.

Returning home, he spent six months in obstetrics finally settling in general practice outside Birmingham, retiring in 1986. On the day of his retirement he received a letter to say that he had been awarded the MBE, which he received from the Queen at Buckingham Palace.

During his time in Birmingham, his first wife died in 1980

and in 1982 he married Renee. Eventually they decided to move to Linton to be near his eldest son, then living in Abington. Sadly, three years later in 1996 Renee died.

Bruce found Linton to be a friendly village and soon got involved in village activities, joining the Historical Society, Garden Club and the Music Society.

After Renee died he decided to join the church choir and before long was a member of the PCC, Chairman of the Friends of St Mary's and subsequently Chairman of the (Church) Fabric Committee.

Bruce met Janet after joining the church choir and they were married in 2004. He has now given up most of these activities but is still treasurer of the Linton Music Society, co-ordinator of Helping Hands and he helps run the Lunch Club.

Bruce's 90th birthday is being celebrated with a family dinner with all three sons attending, followed by a party at the village hall. A wonderful celebration of a long and active life.

LNT

LINTON'S Heritage Trail opened officially on Saturday 19th March with two guided tours around the village centre.

Forty-five people enjoyed the spring sunshine as historian Garth Col-lard treated everybody to a 10-minute resumé of the history of the village before beginning each walk. A third guided tour with around 20 people took place the following day.

The guided walks were obviously a success as the Heritage Trail committee has already received

requests for more of them, and there has been plenty of positive feedback.

It is hoped that these further walks could be in late May or June, and they will be advertised in the Linton News.

The trail, which begins at the village sign, continues down the High Street before turning into Green Lane, through Camping Close and the Churchyard and along Horn Lane before returning to the High Street, Market Lane and back to the iron bridge.

The route is suitable for

the less mobile and takes up to an hour and a half.

Those who wish to follow the trail on their own will find route markers in brown and cream and also larger direction signs on lampposts.

There is a Heritage Trail booklet, available from many outlets in the village, which includes a map of the route. The map can also be found on four oak notice boards sited at the village sign, the car park, Camping Close and in the High Street by the old telephone kiosk near Market Lane.

A limited edition lithograph of the map is available at the Darryl Nantais gallery and elsewhere. There is also an entertaining and informative 35-minute DVD available, price £10, which follows the trail, with additional history, stories and archive material.

The Heritage Trail has been funded by Awards for All, the parish council and the Charles and Mary Anderson Benefaction. Any revenue remaining will be used to fund other historical projects in the village.

Enid Bald

Hectic weekend at flower festival

THE 2011 Linton St Mary's flower festival and fête is now only a month away and, as promised, we can give you further details of the events of the weekend.

The first event will be a grand family barn dance to be held on the evening of Friday 10th June on Camping Close, now our village green. There will be a live band, a marquee, refreshments and even authentic hay bales

when you need to sit down!

Tickets are £7.50 for adults, £4 for children, and free for under fives, and are available from Sweet Talk News or Gill Powell on 893664.

This is open to all and will be an event not to be missed, so get your tickets early as numbers are limited.

On Saturday 11th June there will be the ever-popular dog show, along with

Morris dancers, an army assault course and display, Linton Jazz, the Lions' train, teddy bear parachute jumps and teddy bears' picnic, the annual Granta duck race, stalls, games and refreshments.

The whole event will end with a concert of Linton talent in the evening.

Of course, the highlight of the weekend will be the beautiful flower displays in the

church. This year's theme is *Take My Hands*, providing a wealth of scope for creativity and colour. Members of Linton camera club will also be mounting a display of photos on this theme in the church pavilion.

Make sure you have the date in your diaries and come along and share in the fun of this great village weekend.

Gill Powell 893664

Come and support Linton library: it needs all the Friends it can get

WITH major changes to Cambridgeshire's library service in the offing, the inaugural meeting of the Friends of Linton library was a great success.

The next meeting is on 11th May at the Cathodeon Centre where we intend to elect a committee and decide how to take the group forward.

One thing we are bound to discuss will be the outcome of the public consultation meeting about the future of the library held in April.

Friends are bands of volunteers who support their local

library. They are not part of the library service, but work closely with library staff.

They're similar to voluntary groups who support local hospitals or museums. Closer to home, we already have the Friends of St Mary's in Linton as an example of the major contribution a friends group can make.

Traditionally, friends groups have done things like organising events, such as talks by authors, reading groups or childrens' story-times, raising funds for extra equipment,

promoting the library in the locality and putting forward ideas for its future development.

These activities remain central to what friends do. One of their other roles has been to help as volunteers, with story times or IT advice.

This is set to become much more important. The county council is proposing significant cuts to the library budget that will mean volunteers playing a much greater role in the running of branch libraries on a day-to-day basis, as an alternative to

possible closures.

Friends groups around the county are organising a campaign against these cutbacks, but even if the worst can be avoided, volunteers will still have a vital role to play if our local library is to have a secure future, and having a friends group is the best way to put that into practice.

We hope to see you on 11th May. If you can't make it but would like to be involved, or for more information ring 891970.

Andrew Gore

Too good for jumble...

JUST right for summer – there are four good quality garden chairs on offer this month, as well as the Britax car seat for a child aged four to seven; a cordless iron; golf clubs – assorted woods and putters; a brand new 17in wheeled toolbag, a cased Dring & Fage aluminium slide rule dated 1916, presumably made for the First World War and four white garden chairs.

Wanted: A toy chest, please.

The tent and the porta potti each raised £10 for Linton Guides. The child's first bed sold for £10, donated to 2nd Linton Brownies.

To buy any of the above or to offer an item to profit a charity, please phone me. NB: The donor chooses the charity to receive the money.

Kate France on 891602 or email: kfrance@profsoundconsult.com

Calling all deliverers

I WOULD be most grateful if you could advise me of holiday commitments overlapping the summer delivery dates for week-ends 4/5 June, 2/3 July, 30/31 July and 3/4 August.

September: we do have volunteer stand-ins to ensure all deliveries are made promptly. Thank you.

Kate France



Linton C of E infants school



remains outstanding

BACK in 2007 I joined the school as deputy headteacher and what an eventful start to the job. The headteacher Heather Sturman announced her exciting maternity news and then Ofsted called informing us of an inspection. Goodness how time has flown.

Since 2007 there have been many changes within the school, the church and in education nationally.

The pace of change is still rapid. One major change is Ofsted's ability to inspect from afar. Ofsted have access to school data, any concerns raised plus the online school evaluation form. After considering all the evidence, the education that the Infant school

provides remains outstanding. I believe that this is a result of the dedication and commitment of the whole school community: staff, governors, parents, the church team, the local community and, of course, the children. Thank you everyone. Such a grade motivates us to sustain improvement and build our capacity.

Over the forthcoming terms we will use our professional judgement, the context of our school and its place in the community before jumping through any hoops put in front of us in order to ensure that children at the school are happy and achieve well.

Louise Clark
Headteacher

There's no such word as can't

WHAT an adventure! On the 4th April 52 Year 6 pupils and five adults from Linton Heights went on a three day residential school trip to PGL Adventure Holidays at Caythorpe Park near Grantham.

We had such fun taking part in a number of activities over the three days such as abseiling, team climbing activities, walking over obstacles through a wood whilst blindfolded, quad biking, a challenge course and a climbing wall. Everyone thought it was brilliant but very tiring.

We have learnt that there is no such word as can't and that, with the help and encouragement of our friends and team mates, we can do anything.

Chloe Bell and Daniel Borman Year 6 Pupils



We had such fun taking part in all the activities

Picture by Jennifer Malone

Could you be our next bowls champion?

LINTON Granta bowls club is looking to increase its membership this year and we are inviting anyone, no matter what age, to try their hand at bowls. We have an all weather carpet bowling green situated in the recreation ground at the rear of the football pavilion and have an agreement with the football club to share the facilities in the pavilion.

We have a regular friendly bowls roll up every Wednesday afternoon at 2pm and anyone is welcome to attend. We are also holding an evening roll up at 6pm on Thursday 4th May. If we have enough interest we will be holding regular evening roll ups. Bowls are

available for use and there is no strict dress code, just flat shoes or trainers.

In March the bowls club held their annual dinner. Poppies catering service once again provided an excellent meal and the evening was a huge success. If anyone has any queries about bowling, they are welcome to contact me, the secretary, on 890047 or the President, Bryan Beavis on 893391.

Laurie Boniface
Secretary

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An hour of madness for Red Nose Day



Sitting in a food bath to raise funds

Picture by Elite Wedding Photography

ON Friday 18th March staff at Boyz2Men in Linton had great fun working all day in fancy dress to celebrate red nose day. Customers were amused to find Nina dressed as a baby, Laura-Jane as a rabbit and Carl as Tigger.

At 5pm they celebrated an hour of madness when, after making a donation, children from the village created chaos and a lot of mess by pouring cups full of baked beans, tinned tomatoes and spaghetti over Laura sitting in her food bath. Just over £300 was raised during the day which made it all worthwhile.

Staff would like to thank all the customers who supported them and also Waitrose and Billie Chapman for all the tins of food donated for the event which couldn't have happened without their help.

Nina Dye 894481

Nina, Carl and Laura welcome you to

Boyz 2 Men BARBER SHOP

Opening Hours:
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Tuesday 9:00am - 6pm
Wednesday 9:00am - 8:30pm
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Welcome to the 2011 season at Linton village cricket club



A view of the new cricket nets

Picture supplied by the WormHole Productions

LINTON village cricket club (LVCC) is very much looking forward to the 2011 season with many exciting developments finally coming to fruition.

After a hectic year of planning, the new cricket training academy based at Linton village college is near completion. This will consist of brand new four lane outdoor nets and will give us some of the best training facilities in the area. None of this would have been possible without support and funding from LVC, Linton parish council, the England and Wales Cricket Board and funds raised by LVCC.

We are also delighted to announce that Linton received an award from Cambs Cricket Club for the best ground in junior cricket in 2010. This is well deserved recognition of the time and effort John Richardson puts into preparing the ground for matches. After further fundraising by the club and a grant from Sport England we replaced the old pitch roller with a much more modern version designed for cricket pitches rather than road building in the hope that it will ease John's workload.

Special congratulations to youth coordinator Paul Foster who tirelessly works on behalf of the club to raise its profile and attract funding and was recognised for his efforts with the prestigious English Cricket Board Coaches Association (ECB CA) Cambridgeshire Sky Sports Coach Award 2011 for outstanding contribution and services to cricket coaching.

Finally, back by popular demand, is the Presidents Day on 7th August which this year will be run in conjunction with the football club. Fancy dress parade, cricket competition, penalty shoot out, side shows and lots more, so for a truly family themed village event keep this date free.

Linton village cricket club

Proudly presents the
Goodman Memorial Charity Cricket
Match on 29th May
2pm start
BBQ, Tombola/Raffle
For children: Pooh Sticks on the bridge and a Treasure Hunt or Quiz.
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Readers write...

Post and email addresses and deadline for letters are below. 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.

OUR THANKS

Dear Editor

I would like to thank a very thoughtful lady.

My friend and I were walking along Balsham Road last week on our way to walk the Roman Road to Wandlebury. We were stopped near the derelict cottage by a gentleman in a pick-up who started to ask questions. It soon became very clear that he was in fact the local gamekeeper and we had a friendly chat. I don't think he believed we were going to walk that far! While this was going on, a lady in a black car pulled up behind his car and asked my friend if we were OK. I would like to say thank you to this lady as, if we had been in trouble, we could have taken up her unspoken offer to go with her.

Yes, we did walk to Wandlebury, picnicking on the way.

So from two very foot-weary ladies, thank you.

Name and address supplied.

Spring has sprung



Lots of fun for all and teddy came too

Picture supplied by the playgroup

THE last day of spring was celebrated in style on 27th March as the children and carers from Linton Granta playgroup enjoyed a fairy tale trail around the village. Clues led everyone on a hunt that took them through the

churchyard to the bridge on Horn Lane and along the river until they arrived back at St Mary's pavilion for face painting and the chance to be serenaded by the singing princess, Victoria Vellacott. This fantastic day raised money for the playgroup and provided lots of fun for Linton families.

Our playleader, Michelle Miller, has decided to step down from her position to focus on her family and to work as playgroup deputy. Karen Thompson will be the new playgroup leader. The staff, parents and committee wish them success in their new roles and thank Michelle for all her enthusiasm and commitment.

To find out more about our playgroup visit the website www.lintongrantaplaygroup.org.uk

A visual visit to Wicken Fen



A FEW miles north of us in Cambridgeshire is the unique Wicken Fen landscape. During our April meeting, Lois Baker, Wicken Fen's Community Officer, gave a talk to the WI about this fascinating area. The nature of the Fen has been taking shape since the Romans probably first drained the fenlands. This wetland area has played an important role in the social and economic life of the area, providing materials for thatching local houses, bedding and feed for animals, fish and fowl for food and peat for fuel. Such uses have all left their mark – in the plant and animal communities that have developed over time, and in the peat diggings, paths, ditches and dykes which were created for the ancient exploitation of natural resources.

I have visited a few times, and standing in the middle of the reserve all I see are the wild habitats of fen, water and woodland. With school children I have watched the many dazzling dragon and damselflies and listened for the booming call of the bittern. During our recent freezing winter I was entranced by the patterns of ice on the lodes and sparkling frost on the reeds. But most amazing of all was the pulchritudinous sunset in December.

If you haven't yet been to Wicken Fen, then do. You can also go on a boat trip along the Wicken Lode and even try paddle boarding! There is also a nine mile cycle way from Wicken passing Anglesey Abbey to Bottisham, which forms part of National Cycle Network route 11. Bike hire is available.

At the WI annual meeting in April, June Bunn was elected President for the third year running. Due to other commitments, Bel Griffiths, Brenda Smith and I stood down from the committee and we were presented with beautiful plants. Cynthia Norris will now be writing this monthly report bringing a fresh eye.

The meeting at 7.30pm on Tuesday 3rd May in the village hall will be an antiques road show. Bring along an antique and Barry Stevenson will tell you all about it.

On Wednesday 11th May there is a visit to the Fitzwilliam Museum to see the delightful exhibition of Italian drawings, leaving Linton on the 10.30 a.m. bus. Want to join us? Then phone me on the number below.

Trysha Hunt 894533

The Linton News needs you

If you have lived in the village for several years and know about the community events that happen. If you are computer literate and (even better) maybe know InDesign and/or Pagemaker. If you could commit to a few days/evenings each month. You could become our new editor/sub-editor with lots of support from the news team.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Please contact the editor at the email address on this page.

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LINTON DIARY

For entry in this list, ensure that your event is written into the diary in the Post Office.

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	
Whist drive, 7.30pm Mondays	VH
Pilates classes, 11.15 - 12.15pm, Mondays	VH
Chestnut baby/toddler group. Mondays term time, 9.30-11.30am	CC
Linton theatre workshop, Mondays (call Joe 01440 703701)	
WEA, 10am Tuesdays	VH
Scrabble club, 10am-12noon alternate Tuesdays	CP
Linton Granta toddlers, 9.30 - 11.30am Tuesdays	LVC
Ladies' football, 7-8pm Tuesdays	LVC
Linton chess club, 7.30pm Tuesdays	CC
Granta duplicate bridge club, 2-4pm Tuesdays	VH
Junior choir, 6pm-6.45pm Tuesdays	S' Mary's
IT club, 7pm Tuesdays	CC
Linton children's centre, call 07768 008919	CC
Tots in tow, 10-11.30am Wednesdays, term time only	VH
Bowls roll-ups, 2pm Wednesdays Apr-Oct	Bowls
pavilion Storytime, 2.15-2.45pm Wednesdays (term time only)	Library
Linton radio race car club, 6-10pm Wednesdays	VH
Carpet bowls, 7.30pm Thursdays	VH
The karate club, 5.15-6.15pm, Thursdays	VH
Parents, carers and tots Mocha house, 9.15-10am Fridays	CP
Buffy bus, 11am-12.15pm Fridays	Hadstock village green
Bridge club, 7pm Fridays	CC

For sports centre courses please call Linton village college sports centre on 890248

MAY		
3	WI, 7.30pm	VH
4	Evening bowls roll-up,	RG
5	Linton lunch club, 12 noon	D&D
5	Parish council meeting, 8pm	CC
7	Farmers' market	LVC
9	Camera club 7.15pm	CC
10	VIP meeting, 2pm	Chalklands
10	House and garden fair, 10am	Chilford Hall
10	Gardening club meeting, 7.30pm	VH
11	Library meeting, 8pm	CC
14	Gardening club plant sale, 10.30am	3 Mill Lane
14	Guide jumble sale, 2pm	Infant school
15	Aston Villa v Aztecs football match, 2.30pm	LVC
15	Oxfam walk	Wimpole Hall
15	Sawston fun run & walk contact 893447 or 07748 032302	
16	Mothers Union, 8pm	Church pavilion
18	CAMTAD, hearing help, 9-12noon	Health Centre
17	Historical society, 7.30pm	VH
17	Friends of St Mary's AGM, 7.30pm	St Mary's church
18	Brownie walk, 5.45pm	Infant school
19	Parish council meeting, 8pm	CC
21	LIFE off the rails sale, 10am-1pm	CC
21	Dangerous dads charity bike ride Epping Forest to Linton	
25	Friends of Granta school fête, 1-4pm	Granta school
JUNE		
1	Knitting open day, 12noon-4pm	3 & 40 Chalklands
2	Linton lunch club, 12 noon	D&D
2	Parish council meeting, 8pm	CC
4	Farmers' market	LVC
6	Camera club, 7.15PM	CC
7	WI, 7.30pm	VH
10-12	Flower festival	St Mary's Church

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: Monday Closed; Tuesday 10.30am-1pm, 2pm-5pm; Wednesday 2pm-5pm, 6pm-8pm; Thursday Closed; Friday 10.30am-1pm, 2pm-5pm, 6pm-8pm; Saturday 10am-12noon.

Refuse collection: 9th, 23rd May

Recycling collection: 3rd, 16th and 31st May.

THE LINTON NEWS Next Publication 6th June 2011

DEADLINES for ADVERTS Monday 16th May

NEWS ITEMS Wednesday 18th May

ITEMS FOR ADVERTISING MANAGER

We currently have no advertising space

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: Wendy Foster email: lneditor@linton.info
phone 891626

For distribution queries contact: Kate France 891602

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Bonsai bonanza ...

DEREK Archer of the Bury & Cambridge Bonsai clubs brought a fabulous display of his own bonsai to aid his lively and fascinating talk. One specimen gained its interesting shape by being run over by a tractor during logging in Thetford forest and being trained over the next 42 years.

Bonsai can be formed out of most trees though some are harder than others. Leaves can be miniaturised with pruning but not fruit, flowers or cones. This can lead to spectacular cherry blossom on bonsai but may look a little strange if using a bramley apple seedling for your next project.

The secret of bonsai happiness lies in twice daily

watering, regular feeding and potting in compost made of equal parts bark, grit and cat litter, which saves a small fortune on grower bagged bonsai compost.

The gardening club's final meeting of the season will be at 7.30pm on Tuesday 10th May in the village hall, when Stephen Poyser's talk will be Beekeeping and the Gardener. He will give hints on how to help bees, especially topical given the recent decline in bee population.

Photographers are reminded that this year's show categories are water, nature up close, seeds or seed head(s), and a weathervane. A maximum of three photographs are permitted per category, each of not

greater than 40 square inches and unmounted.

Kirsten Newble 892425
lgcsecretary@yahoo.co.uk

...and don't forget the plant sale

THE Garden club's annual plant sale will be held from 10am-12pm on Saturday 14th May at 3 Mill Lane. Do come along and treat yourself to some new additions to the garden or some of our lovely produce, or just have a cup of tea.

Donations of plants, produce or cakes would be appreciated and may be delivered to 3 Mill Lane on Friday evening.



Jim Foster studies the spectacular bonsai

Picture by Ron Pitkin

Local dads in charity ride



ON Saturday 21st May a small team of local dads will be endeavouring to cycle 75km cross-country

from Epping Forest to Linton to raise funds for two local charities, namely Chestnuts playgroup and the Granta playgroup.

These two playgroups provide nursery care for pre-school children in the Linton area and the money raised will allow them to purchase new and essential play equipment.

Training for the event has involved a weekly ride out on a Thursday evening with the Dog and Duck as the starting point.

The route will consist of forest tracks, bridleways and minor roads and will take the riders through Hertfordshire, Essex and Cambridgeshire. A back-up car will be available to assist those who may develop mechanical breakdowns en route and also supply drinking water to the riders.

They would really appreciate your support. Sponsorship forms are available from Paul Orton, 19 High Street. All donations will be gratefully received and the riders, known as Dangerous Dads, have previously raised over £2200 in the past two years for local causes. With your support the 11 sponsored riders aim to raise over £1500.

Thank you for your interest and support.

Paul Orton
Dangerous Dads



Chef's corner

Queen of plums

Ingredients
Serves 6

6 plums, ripe but firm, halved and stoned
275g golden caster sugar
½ lemon juiced and finely zested
15g butter – softened
4 medium eggs
125g fresh white breadcrumbs
500ml full cream milk
½tsp vanilla extract
Single cream to serve

Method

Cut the plums into quarters and put them in a saucepan with 100g of the sugar and the lemon juice. Cover and gently cook for 15 minutes, turning until the sugar has dissolved and the plums have softened.

Remove the lid and increase the heat.

Simmer the plums for a further 8-10 minutes until they are soft and the sauce thickened. Spoon into a well-buttered dish and leave to cool.

Separate 3 of the eggs (reserving the whites) and beat 3 yolks with 1 whole egg in a large bowl until smooth. Stir in 25g of the remaining sugar, lemon zest, softened butter, breadcrumbs and milk. Leave to stand for 15 minutes. Spoon the bread mixture evenly on top of the cooled plums.

Heat the oven to 180C/fan 160C/Gas 4. Bake the pudding in the centre of the oven for about 40 minutes until lightly browned.

Whisk the egg whites until stiff and add in the rest of the sugar. Beat in the vanilla extract. Pile the meringue on top of the pudding and bake for a further 15-20 minutes.

Serve with hot single cream.



Chilford 10k

Dust off your trainers

IT IS great to see so many people running around in Linton nowadays. Some have been training through the cold winter to prepare for the London marathon, others made a new year resolution and are sticking to it. So with warmer temperatures and sun kissing our countryside, I am pleased to announce Chilford 10K run registrations are on.

Linton out of school club (LOSC) is giving you the opportunity to enter either a five or 10k event starting at 11am on Sunday 12th June.

Courtesy of Chilford hall, the runs will take place in and around the lovely vineyard site with either one or two loops depending on your ability. As usual the cafe will be opened for runners and families to enjoy a great day out.

The start and finish will take place on the green, close to the main entrance to Chilford hall in Balsham Road.

LOSC is a charity which provides after school care for children aged four to 11 from our schools.

We are grateful to our sponsors: Advance Performance, Icen, Jazzercise, Nextnorth, Saffron Striders and Tereza Votre.

We look forward to seeing you there.

Should you need further information please contact me on Chilford10k@googlemail.com or download the entry form on www.losc.co.uk.

Stephane Toussnel
LOSC

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A townie discovers a taste for country food

I AM from urban Essex where wildlife was something you saw on the television, usually a softly-spoken bearded guy looking at birds and mammals through binoculars from a secret hide. A million miles away from my life and of no relevance to me or to anyone I knew.

The countryside was a place where you would have sheep and cows. As for all the other creatures, well they were there but you never saw them unless you hid in a tree for five hours, stayed motionless and of course, just whispered.

I remember the first time I saw a fox. It was dead unfortunately, but I still had a morbid curiosity about it. Then on a train to London, I saw a pheasant and thought that it was spectacularly exotic.

I was 30 before I saw a badger, again it was a road kill, but this was a creature you just never saw in an urban location. Now though, when driving around the countryside, the roads are littered with the remains of some of our largest wild animals. Foxes are probably more common in towns and



Red-legged Partridge

cities now than they are in rural areas.

Now I have adopted the semi-rural life, one skill I would like to learn is how to prepare some of these fatalities for the dinner plate. I once knew someone who would stop and pick up a freshly killed pheasant, put it in his boot and take it home.

Someone else told me that a muntjac is one of the best venison meats you can eat.

I'm starting to look at the wood pigeon differently as well at the moment: instead of feeding them, I'm thinking they could feed me.

I have no intention of buying a gun and killing for sport or pest control or any recreational purposes, but when I lived near the coast, everyone knew someone who went fishing and preparing a fish for dinner was perfectly normal.

I would probably make a hash of a rabbit or partridge. Luckily though, there are people who do know about these kinds of things, the butchers for example, so I can buy them if I want to. Then there are the chefs who know how to cook them.

Growing your own fruit and vegetables can give you an enormous sense of satisfaction, and people love to keep chickens and collect the eggs, I wonder how it would feel to produce the whole meal?

These country crafts were once a lot more common than they are now. We all knew someone who knew someone who could do this for us, as we knew someone who kept bees, or made cheese, brewed beer, or smoked meats.

Or I could just go to the farmers' market on the first Saturday of the month.

This is one of the last Country Notes from Ian Storey. If there is anyone out there with a feel for the countryside and who is also harbouring a secret desire to be an author, please let us know. We have a job for them!

Come to our fête and win a pair of Arsenal star's boots

THIS year's much anticipated Friends of Granta school summer fête will take place from 1-4pm on Saturday 25th June. A major attraction this year will be the auctioning of a pair of boots worn and signed by Jack Wilshere, the Arsenal and England star.

There will also be the usual stalls and attractions including a high quality raffle, barbecue and refreshments. Music will be provided by the Linton village jazz band with vocalist Karen Sanderson.

Granta school is a special needs school located in the grounds of the village college. There are 116 pupils aged from four to 19. All money raised at the fête will be used to provide Granta students with activities and equipment which would otherwise be unavailable to them.

Paul Ilott, chair/treasurer Friends of Granta School

How to fight that flab and have a laugh as well

WITH longer days and better weather, the time has come to address that winter flab and get back to fitness. What better way than by joining the mens' Monday keep fit club at the LVC sports centre?

The club's aim remains unchanged - to help its members, whatever their age, get fit and stay fit in an environment that's not too demanding or competitive. We don't take it too seriously. We think that having a laugh and a good time is an important part of exercise. That's why, after the time in the fitness room, the circuit training and the basketball, we still finish the evening in the pub.

Whatever your age, why not join us? Just turn up at the sports centre around 8pm any Monday evening except Bank Holidays, or ring Peter 892355, Bob 891372 or Ian 893477 for more information.

LNT

POT POURRI (74)

An infinite internet?

THE Internet has seemingly become a modern necessity, but there are only so many addresses - known as URLs (Uniform Resource Locator) - it can handle. Due to the number of addresses now extant, the internet is about to run out of assigned addresses in the next year or so. If you want to register an address, consider it soon.

The present protocol is capable of assigning 4 billion addresses and the new protocol-in-waiting will be able to handle about 3.5 billion billion, billion, billion addresses. If this number is equated to years, the universe would have suffered heat death some 10,000 times over!

Now, without resorting to calculators, to what power of 2 must a number be raised to express both the old and the new quantity of assigned addresses?

e.g. 1024 addresses = 2¹⁰ (about 10³) so the raised number is 10.

Solution to No73: How many bulbs were on?

The question was straightforward in stating that a 90W bulb was switched off. Thus the total power must have been 900W to begin with. Hence this must have meant that there must have been either one of the following combinations: 5 x 54W + 2 x 135W; 10 x 54W + 2 x 135W; 5 x 54W + 4 x 135W

The rest were 90W bulbs.

Urania

Knitting open day

KNITTING is a serious business in Chalklands. Between 12 and 18 ladies from Linton and surrounding villages attend fortnightly meetings in the Chalklands community room to knit warm clothing and blankets, hats and gloves for needy families in Armenia and Rumania and baby clothes for the Rosie, as well as making soft toys for children in Africa.

On Wednesday 1st June the ladies will hold an open day from 12noon to 4pm to show their work to visitors. Donations of wool and cash to support the charities, however small, would be much appreciated. Entry to the open day is free and there will be a raffle and refreshments available.

Donations of wool for the knitting group can also be left with Jean Whitby at 3 Chalklands or Joy Button at 40 Chalklands.

Kate France LNT

LIFE's off-the-rails sale

LIFE, the Linton Initiative for the Elderly, will be hosting an off-the-rails clothes sale from 10am-1pm on 21st May at the Cathodeon Centre. Refreshments, home-made cakes and handicrafts will be on sale in support of LIFE.

Volunteers who can manage wheelchairs are particularly welcome. For more information please contact: Miriam or Geoff Reynolds 892645

Support the Brownies' walk

ON Wednesday 18th May, the Wednesday Brownies are doing their charity walk in aid of Macmillan Nurses, meeting at the Infant school at 5.45pm. Just £2 per family. If you would like to put your daughter on the Brownie waiting list, please call me.

Daphne Frazier 892276

Jumble sale raises £500

THANK you to everyone who supported the Linton Guides' jumble sale. We raised £500 for Linton funds. We are holding a further sale at the Infant school on 14th May. Gifts of jumble will be gladly received in the hall from 10am and the sale starts at 2pm.

Kate France 891602

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The Derbyshire Post



WITH Easter being so late this year, the spring term was a long one at LVC, but there were very many highlights.

Two events in particular were enjoyed by a large number of people in our community: the LVC X Factor and the Variety Show. What is always delightful about these kinds of events is that we see a side to our students that we sometimes miss at school. Of course, we know about the academic profile of children, we see them involved in sporting endeavours and participating in school music, but there are still some talents that children have which remain hidden until they reveal them: who would know, for example, that an alarming number of Year 10 boys can juggle with fire or ride a unicycle? Who would have guessed that at home some of our youngsters practice stand-up comedy routines, are prolific song writers or take on the persona of Jake the Peg?

We also discover, particularly in the X Factor competition, boys who have terrific voices. You will be aware from seeing the work of choirmaster Gareth Malone on television, that teenage boys can be reluctant to sing at school, but each year that the X Factor comes around we discover that some Year 11 lad, who has not wished to sing in any other context, is very happy to belt out a pop song in front of all of his peers. It is almost always a complete revelation, greeted with screams and applause, and we all wish that they had done it lower down the school so that we could have heard the voice more often.

Events like this are a sell out and it is little wonder: the standard of the items is as good as many of the things that you see on national television, and you have to keep pinching yourself that the performers are only 11-16 year olds. What a wealth of talent we have in our area.

Caroline Derbyshire, Principal

Walk at Wimpole for Oxfam

COME and spend an enjoyable day with the family at the Oxfam Walk on Sunday 15th May, raising money for Oxfam's Emergencies Fund.

The start and finish point of the walk is at Wimpole Hall, where you can choose from several walks. All the walks are well signed with marshals and there are convenient checkpoints offering refreshments and toilets for a well-earned break. The individual raising the highest amount in sponsorship will also win a fabulous walking holiday for two in the Lake District.

This year, the Oxfam Walk aims to raise £50,000 for Oxfam's Emergencies Fund helping communities affected by natural and man-made disasters, including the thousands of people in desperate need of assistance, following the tsunami in Japan.

For more information and to register online visit www.oxfam.org.uk/walk or pick up a registration form from your local Oxfam shop.



S/0108/11 Mr and Mrs Nigel Head, 9 Rivey Way, Linton.

Demolition of existing flat roof outhouse and erection of single storey side and rear extension to form cloak-room, utility room, kitchen and sitting room.

S/0563/11 Mr Philip Cheesmur, 57 The Grove, Linton. Erection of a 1.80m high fence.

S/0613/11 Mr M Darias and Ms C Mendoza, Land north-east of 26 Back Road, Linton. Erection of dwelling and summerhouse.

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The Way We Were by Garth Collard

A short history of Linton Mill

FROM the by-pass, looking towards Linton, the skyline is dominated by a large white building known as the Linton mill. The doomsday book records two water mills in Linton but their location is unknown.

In 1225 the Lords of Barham Manor granted between five and ten acres of land, called wasteland on the boundary beside the River Granta next to Hadstock parish, to John de Fordham, bishop of Ely, Lord of the Manor of Hadstock. A water mill was built on the present day site utilising the power of the river and the present day millpond was created in the Middle Ages.

The mill produced flour for Linton and the surrounding area. By the 1780s it was owned by Edmund Taylor from Horseheath. His brother, Daniel installed a beam steam engine to power the large undershot mill wheel, which was opened in 1786 at a grand ceremony attended by most of the village population. Edmund occupied the present



Picture of Linton Mill circa 1908 from Garth's collection

day Mill House, a mixture of 16th and 17th century sections and completely rebuilt the mill. The large slatted wooden buildings contained very large grain silos, very similar to those seen today at Camgrain.

Edmund died in 1798, aged 74, leaving the mill to his daughter Ann and a group of relatives. In 1827 Ann's husband John Reeve became the owner but he died just one year later. The mill then passed to Ann's nephew, John Kidman of Horseheath.

The Kidman family lived in the Mill House and established the large present day rear gar-

den, part of which can be seen from the millpond. Kidman also owned the Old Manor House, the 18th century house at the bottom of Green Lane used as the base for his main business as a tanner.

Two accidents recorded at the Linton and Hadstock Mill at this time concerned Joseph Briggs, an employee, who was caught and crushed under the wheel of a wagon in March 1865 and the mill being struck by lightning one hot day in 1881 when a stack of wheat caught fire. Fortunately this was soon extinguished by the local fire brigade.

In 1884 the Linton Milling

and Corn Company mill was purchased by Frederick Searle Nichols, after whom Nichols Court was named. He was a generous benefactor to the village, especially to the poor and workhouse inmates.

Frederick's widow Jane sold the mill in 1908 to Arthur Gowlett, the go-ahead son of a Radwinter farmer, for about £1,100. Arthur also became a very successful businessman dealing in grain imports at the Baltic Exchange in London. He died shortly after returning to Linton from Army service in 1947.

Arthur's daughter Mary inherited and ran the business and educated herself to understand every aspect of the grain trade. Although the mill continued to produce small quantities of high quality English wheat flour, Mary diversified, producing a range of animal feed. When profits had fallen below £1,000 a year in the 1980s, Mary sold the site to a private developer who converted the buildings into three large houses.

Spelling bee gets students buzzing

STUDENTS at Linton village college are buzzing after their success in a French spelling bee. Two pupils from year seven beat off the challenge of more than 4,000 others from across the region to reach the national finals of the competition. The spelling bee, organised by Routes into Languages and Southampton University, aims to raise the profile of language learning and help students to improve their vocabulary, spelling and memory skills. Around 20,000 students are taking part from across the UK.

Four students from LVC qualified for the Eastern regional finals in April, where their task was to memorise 150 items of vocabulary and spell them correctly in French, answering as many

words as possible in one minute. In a fast-paced test of pronunciation, spelling and memory, all four LVC students made it into the final eight places. Jack Steward and Juliette Stephens were eliminated in the semi-finals but Olivia Haste and Helen Grant went through into the final four.

Olivia, 12, was pipped at the post into fourth position while Helen, also 12, was crowned East of England spelling bee champion, receiving a French dictionary and a handsome trophy. Helen and Olivia will both go forward to represent LVC in the national final at Anglia Ruskin University, Cambridge in July.

Tony Kelly, LVC 891233
Ext 158
tony.kelly@lvc.org

Fun run will support Rosie hospital

REGISTRATIONS are being encouraged for the Sawston fun run and walk on 15th May, organised by the Rotary Club.

Proceeds from the largest annual community-led event in the county will go towards the Rosie hospital campaign and 13 other local charities. Plans are well advanced and registrations are now welcome to ensure another large turnout on the day and to give entrants sufficient time to obtain their own sponsors. Registration is available online at www.sawstonfunrun.co.uk and entry forms are available from Sawston village college and branches of Cambridge Building society.

Over £336,000 has been donated to local organisations over the years and this year the aim is to attract over 1200 entrants to the event. Spectators will enjoy the attractions of this family fun morning at Sawston village college. A target of £17,000 has been set.

Vic Starkey, president of the Rotary club of Sawston district said: "we are hoping that more people than ever will enter and everyone will get their families and friends to sponsor them to raise much needed funds from this fun occasion. The support from the business community is vital to us in organising this event. We thank them and everyone else for their input. We wish all those taking part a good time."

Further information is available from Tony Collett on 893447 or 07748032302, email t.collett@virgin.net.

Ian Chamberlain 872243
thecoolian@hotmail.com
Chairman Organising Committee

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

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Be on the look out for invasive weeds

WHAT are invasive weeds? Invasive weeds are not native to the UK and cause many problems. They can:

- Displace native UK species.
- Reduce biodiversity.
- Block footpaths, cycle paths and canal tow paths.
- Break up concrete and tarmac.
- Damage flood defences and river bank stability.
- Cause harm to human health (particularly Giant Hogweed).

Giant Hogweed



Similar to common hogweed, Giant Hogweed (*Heracleum mantegazzianum*), is a native of the Caucasus region and central Asia and was introduced into Britain in 1893 as an ornamental plant. It escaped from gardens and now colonises many areas of wasteland and riverbanks.

- It bears a close resemblance to native cow parsley and hogweed.
- Has a reddish purple stem and fine spines that make it appear furry (like a stinging nettle).
- Has spotted leaf stalks.
- May grow to three to five metres high.
- Leaves can be up to 1.5m wide.
- Plants can take up to four years to reach their full height.
- Flowers in June and July.
- Flower heads are commonly 500mm (0.5m) wide.
- Flowers can each produce 50,000 seeds every year.
- Seeds can stay in the soil for up to 15 years before they develop.
- It is a phototoxic plant and its sap can cause phytophotodermatitis (severe skin inflammations) when the skin is exposed to sunlight or to UV-rays. Initially the skin colours red and starts itching. Then blisters form as in burns within 48 hours.

Japanese Knotweed

Japanese Knotweed (*Fallopia japonica*) was first brought to Britain in the mid-nineteenth century as an ornamental garden plant. Since then it has caused serious problems in a range of habitats – particularly roadsides, riverbanks and waste land by displacing native flora and even causing structural damage.



- It begins growing in early spring.
- Can grow as much as 2cm per day.
- Can reach a height of 1.5m by May and 3m by June.
- Produces fleshy red tinged shoots when it first breaks through the ground.
- Has large, oval green leaves.
- Has a silver tinge on the underside of its leaves.
- Has a hollow stem, similar to bamboo.
- Forms dense clumps that can be several metres deep.
- Produces clusters of cream flowers towards the end of August.
- Dies back between September and November leaving dead, brown stems.
- Will grow in any type of soil, no matter how poor.
- Does not grow from seed.

It holds the title of the UK's most invasive plant and has become the subject of horror stories. Its removal from the 2012 Olympic site in east London could cost hundreds of thousands of pounds. It should not be removed from site without a waste licence.

Himalayan Balsam

- Himalayan or Indian Balsam (*Impatiens glandulifera*) is a native of the western Himalayas. Introduced to Britain in 1839, it escaped from gardens and rapidly colonised river banks and areas of damp ground.
- Has reddish coloured stems.
- Has dark green lance shaped leaves with jagged edges.
- Has large, brightly coloured flowers that are usually in variable shades of purplish-pink.
- Flowers from June to October.
- Grows up to 2m in height.

Each plant lasts for one year and dies at the end of the growing season.

Can produce around 2,500 seeds per plant each year. Has explosive seed pods that can throw seeds over 6m away from the original plant (similar to our friendly garden Impatiens or Busy Lizzies).



Guidance notes and all pictures courtesy of the Environment Agency

LINTON PARISH COUNCIL

Linton Village Hall, Coles Lane, Linton, 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 4–5.30pm, Tuesday–Friday 9am–12noon
Or by appointment
 Dates for full council meetings:
 5th and 19th May, 2nd and 16th June 2011
 All meetings held at the Cathodeon centre following the public forum commencing at 8pm

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Councilminutescouncilminutescouncilminutescouncilminutes

ABBREVIATED minutes of the meeting of the parish council held at the Cathodeon centre on Thursday 3rd March 2011.

Present: Ms E Cornell (chair), Mrs E Bald (vice chair), D Champion, Dr B Cox, Mrs S Dew, M Gee, R Hickford, Ms T Hunt, B Manley, G Potter, Mrs J Wilson and Mrs S Parry (clerk). Mrs K France (press) was also in attendance together with 14 members of the public.

Apologies for absence were received from councillors Mannassi and Linsdell.

Declaration of interests: Cllr Dew declared a prejudicial interest under the Sanctuary Care, Nichols Court item. Cllr Hickford declared a prejudicial interest under the cricket club item.

Matters arising from the minutes of the meeting held on 17th February: Cllr Bald proposed that £1000 be awarded to the cricket club from s137 funds. The proposal was seconded by Cllr Hunt. A vote took place with nine votes in favour and one abstention. Cllr Hickford did not leave the room as no discussion took place, he did not vote. Proposal carried.

Reports from co-ordinators: Open spaces and environment: Cllr Bald reported risk assessments had been carried out.

Cemetery: A report had been issued. Cllr Manley proposed that the reservation of burial and ashes plots in the new areas only be allowed at the time of a burial of a relative. The proposal was seconded by Cllr Hickford and resolved by the meeting.

Cllr Bald reported that hedging had been planted on the north and western boundaries.

Venture playground: The chair welcomed Jane Clarke from the One Minet Park in Saffron Walden and 10 local skateboarders. Discussion took place and the opinion of the skateboarders was sought. Given one choice, four were in favour of refurbishing the existing half pipe and six preferred that the money be spent on developing new street style equipment. However ideally all would prefer that the ramp be refurbished as soon as possible and funding be sought to develop a new area for street style equipment. Cllr Hickford proposed that the current ramp be repaired as soon as possible. The proposal was seconded by Cllr Hunt. A vote took place with nine votes in favour and one vote against. Proposal carried.

Stuart Crook was asked to advise the clerk of reputable companies who could undertake the repair work so that quotations could be obtained. The skateboarders were invited to bring along ideas for the new area to the meeting of 2nd June.

Churchyard: Cllr Cox suggested that the parochial church council (PCC) be contacted and asked to arrange future access onto rectory land with regard to the impending sale. It was agreed to write to the PCC requesting that they formally negotiate with the diocese.

A1307, traffic and recreation ground parking: Cllr Hickford reported that concerns had again been raised regarding illegal parking outside the Co-op. Another concern was the speed of traffic in the High Street, particularly in the area of the Dog and Duck public house. It was agreed to place this issue on the next agenda when the county councillor would be present to discuss the possible implementation of a 20mph speed limit for the High Street.

Consideration of wish list: The wish list was considered and updated. The requests for grit bins could not be progressed as the county council had stated that they would not sanction any further bins and could not guarantee that the current ones would be filled in the future. A map of the current locations would be requested.

Correspondence received, for discussion and decision:

Permission was given to the football club for the memorial bench to be sited between the two benches currently on the path side of the meadow. This is where the late Barry Brewer had usually stood.

Mr A Gore, chairman of the Cathodeon trustees, had responded regarding the request for funding and submission of annual accounts. Cllr Gee proposed that the reclaim of £1500 be waived. The proposal was seconded by Cllr Champion. After discussion Cllr Potter proposed an amendment that the solicitor's fee would

be waived if, and only when a parish council representative was restored as a trustee. The amendment was seconded by Cllr Hickford and the amended proposal was agreed.

Several complaints regarding signage at Linton village college (along the A1307) had been received. These concerns had been passed to the planning enforcement department at South Cambridgeshire district council (SCDC) who would investigate and take any necessary action.

Reports from councillors (for information only): A response from SCDC had been received regarding the right-of-way behind Nichols Court. More investigation was required.

Cllr Hickford reported that following a request from the police the CCTV footage of the recreation ground had been viewed regarding three separate incidents - an attempted break in, a fire near the containers and the theft of a bike.

The clerk reported that for safety and security reasons the Cathodeon trustees had decided that, for the duration of the main building works, the Cathodeon centre grounds would only be open to the public at weekends when some part of the building was in use. This meant the play equipment would be available for public use on Saturday and Sunday mornings, as now, but only occasionally during the afternoons. As soon as the main building works had been completed it would revert to all-day opening at weekends. The public would, of course, still be able use the play equipment during weekday evenings whenever the library was open or the rooms were hired out.

ABBREVIATED minutes of the meeting of the parish council held at the Cathodeon centre on Thursday 17th March 2011.

Present: Ms E Cornell (chair), Mrs E Bald (vice chair), Mrs S Dew, M Gee, R Hickford, Ms T Hunt, J Linsdell, G Potter, Mrs J Wilson and Mrs S Parry (clerk). County and district councillor J Batchelor, district councillor Mrs T Bear and Mrs K France (press) were in attendance together with four members of the public.

Public forum: Mr J Bald had acquired details of county council management salaries and spoke of his concerns regarding the breakdown of management costs relating to youth workers.

Apologies for absence were received from councillors Cox, Champion, Manley and Mannassi.

Declaration of interests: Planning application for external lighting ref S/2256/10 Sanctuary Housing, Nichols Court. Cllr Dew disclosed a personal and prejudicial interest as the owner of land adjacent to the site and left the room during the discussion and decision on this matter.

Matters arising from the minutes of the meeting held on 3rd March: Cllr Dew reported that she had spoken with a resident of Back Road who had a deed of variation and documentation from South Cambridgeshire district council (SCDC) confirming a right-of-way to Flaxfields. Cllr Batchelor would take this up with SCDC.

Report from police and consideration of policing, safety and security issues: The clerk reported that there had been an arson attack on the Cathodeon centre fence. Damage had also been caused to a neighbouring garage. The police and fire service had attended the incident.

Cllr Hickford reported that a serious incident had taken place on the evening of Friday 11th March where two local youths had been assaulted. High visibility patrols would take place the following weekend to prevent a reoccurrence. CCTV footage had been given for evidence following a request from the police. Cllr Hickford reported that the police had responded very well to the recent incidents and this should be acknowledged. It was agreed to send a letter of praise and thanks.

Report from the county councillor: Cllr Batchelor reported that the speed limit policy would be reviewed by cabinet in April. It was likely that a request for a 20mph speed limit in the High Street would be agreed if local demand allowed, subject to basic requirements. If an average speed of 24mph or less was recorded then only signage would be required. This would need to be financed by the parish council at a cost of £70-£80 for each introductory sign and £40 for each repeater sign. However if

the average speed exceeded 24mph then further traffic calming measures would be required resulting in a much greater cost. Cllr Batchelor confirmed that he supported the proposal to reduce the speed limit to 20mph in the High Street.

Reports from the district councillors: Cllr Bear reported that SCDC performance figures for recycling had increased since the introduction of the blue bin.

Youth funding: Following a meeting with Locality a report had been issued and a draft service level agreement had been received. It was still felt that not enough information had been received and figures comparing like for like villages and youth clubs were still required. Cllr Batchelor was asked to clarify his statement that no youth clubs would close imminently even if no funding was found. However he could not confirm this. The parish council did not want the village youth club to close and wanted to support it but required further information before a decision could be made.

Disability access and dropped kerbs: Cllr Batchelor had confirmed that the following works would be carried out in April or May: 1) Back Road/Flaxfields junction - dropped kerbs to each side of the entrance to Flaxfields (developer could perhaps donate these and/or carry out under remedial work). 2) Dropped kerb needed opposite Dodgers Lane near Sweet Talk News (1 kerb). 3) High Street/Market Lane junction, the kerb nearest A1307 is very difficult to negotiate (other side already has dropped kerb to access the cobbled area) (1 kerb). 4) High Street near Horn Lane - dropped kerb on side nearest A1307 (1 kerb). 5) Wheatshaf Way/Horseheath Road junction, dropped kerbs to both sides. 6) Finchams Close/Bartlow Road junction, dropped kerbs to both sides. 7) Emsons Close/Bartlow Road junctions, dropped kerbs to both sides.

Planning application ref S/2256/10 Sanctuary Housing, Nichols Court, Flaxfields - external lighting on and around the existing building/site consisting of lighting columns, bollards and wall mounted fittings: Concerns were raised that environmental health had visited the site on a number of occasions, had made recommendations but no enforcement had taken place which was totally unacceptable. The comments to be sent to SCDC planning opposing the application were agreed.

Correspondence received, for discussion and decision: Zurich Insurance regarding a long term agreement with associated discounts. Cllr Hickford proposed that a three year long term agreement be taken out with Zurich Insurance, a saving of £426.24. The proposal was seconded by Cllr Gee. A vote took place with six votes in favour and two against. Proposal carried.

SCDC had responded to council's wind farm letter. Cllr Hickford said that with respect to the wind farm appeal the district council had continually failed to address concerns on accident records and levels of high traffic flows. The officers at the district council had failed to investigate and report on the concerns of district councillors over these matters. The concern of driver distraction had only been partially addressed. The response received from SCDC had once again failed to deliver answers requested.

Reports from councillors (for information only): Cllr Cornell reported that a copy of the PhD study commissioned after the Linton flooding in 2002 had been found on the internet. The link would be forwarded.

Cllr Bald thanked the district council for six trees which had been planted along Bartlow Road.

Cllr Bald requested that the remaining tree works (work on a conifer and removal of a dead tree and general tidy up) behind Crabtree Croft and Symond's Lane be carried out as soon as possible by the district council.

Cllr Potter reported that due to the sudden resignation, for personal reasons, of the chair of Linton ATC civilian committee, they were looking for a new chair. The staff were also looking for more help due to their workload not giving them any time off.

Cllr Linsdell reported that from April the county council would take responsibility for issuing bus passes.

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

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