

Love Your Library event from 10am to 1pm on Saturday 12th May in the library. See page 4

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THE LINTON NEWS

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

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Bookfest bonanza!

LINTON Children's Book Festival will soon be here. Come and enjoy a big weekend of free, fun activities for families on 19th- 20th May at Linton Village College. Do you know a kid who loves the arts, science or magical stories? Adventures, animals or gameshows? Or just a good belly laugh? Whatever they are into, they'll have a wonderful time at Linton Bookfest.

And there's more. Starting with a community Love Your Library celebration on Saturday 12th May, there'll be lots to do around the village in the lead up to the main festival. Take yourselves on a round-the-village safari trail (you might win a family ticket to Linton Zoo), join a storytime in a beautiful garden, or visit an exhibition of artwork by festival illustrators at the Darryl Nantais Gallery.

We hope everyone feels welcome to join in our event. For full details, pick up a programme at Linton library or other locations, or visit our website: www.lintonbookfest.org

Linton Children's Book Festival would be impossible without all our fabulous volunteers - we truly appreciate everyone who helps and we welcome new recruits. We are also grateful to the Arts Council, Linton Parish Council, Wadlow Wind Farm Community Fund, Heffers Bookshop, TTP (The Technology Partnership) Group, the Anderson Trust, LVC and



Brian the Lion, the Bookfest mascot
Picture taken by Jo Patterson

other generous supporters. If you enjoy the festival, please consider making a donation so that this event can continue in the future. Anna McMahon, info@lintonbookfest.org

What a night for Linton Granta



The triumphant Linton Granta
Picture supplied by Linton Granta

FOR the first time the Linton Granta football club have won the Premier League Cup and they did it in style by winning it without conceding a goal in the competition.

Spurred on by a large Linton contingent, the first team beat local rivals West Wratting 3-0 in the cup final at Newmarket Town's ground in front of nearly 300 people.

The team started well and skipper, Dale Archer, who put in a real captain's performance, opened the scoring with a classy finish before Simon Greathead doubled Linton's advantage with a close-range strike for his 20th goal of the season. Andy Palmer, who manager Lee Miller believes is the best player in the league, then put the icing on the cake with a 20-yard belter to complete the scoring.

Manager Lee Miller, who is in his first season as manager, said: "The way we played was a joy to watch, it was a complete performance from the team. They were disciplined, energetic, worked hard off the ball and on the ball, just brilliant."

Linton Granta's season has gone from strength to strength but, as manager Lee Miller pointed out, this has not just been luck but the rewards of the hard work put in on the training field, with the side training several times a week since November.

Paul Poulter commented "The win shows the continued strength of the club and together with Linton Aztecs (which fields multiple teams for junior players from age five to 11) is one of the largest and best supported clubs of its type in the country with a combined membership of hundreds.

Thanks are due also to the many volunteers who organise the training prepare the pitches and man the kitchen and the bar on match days."

David O'Dell, 07739962564

Too good for jumble

THIS month offers include a Pride Jet 3 Ultrapower battery operated wheelchair in working order but needs a service; a selection of print cartridges for Canon PIXMA iP4200/iP4300/iP4500 and a mix of print cartridges for a Brother printer; a new neon egg boiler to boil and steam vegetables and the Sound-wave music centre with radio, turntable and CD player.

The mountain bike raised £10 each for Linton Guides and Scouts.

If you have an item to benefit a charity, please contact Kate France on kfrance@profsoundconsult.com or ring 891602

NB: The donor chooses the charity to receive the money.

Christian Aid Week

IN Haiti, Marcelin raised his three daughters alone. They've endured some of the worst natural disasters on earth. They are not just survivors. They are fighters. But they are only so strong. They won't survive the next hurricane without your help. This Christian Aid Week you can be in their corner. You can help them build a home that will weather the next storm, so they won't need to fight to survive anymore.

Will you join us? Last year, through the generosity of people like you, we raised over £3,000. Don't be put off by stories you've read in the papers concerning other charities. Christian Aid takes safeguarding very seriously. They are a signatory to sector-wide codes of conduct and have a range of established policies and procedures aimed at preventing sexual harassment.

This Christian Aid Week, 13th to 19th May, our churches are making their annual door-to-door collection. Everyone taking part is a volunteer. We'd love to collect your contribution but if you don't want to be disturbed, please leave your envelope outside.

Speak to Pam Richardson today if you'd like to be involved on 890921. Together we can be stronger than the storms.

Small change makes a big difference to a charity



Pictured from left, Mike Crofts, Rose Knightley, Jim Foster, Janet Crofts, Nicola Fletcher, Robert Bush and Janet Conochie.
Picture supplied by YBS

THE Yorkshire Building Society Charitable Foundation is funded through the Small Change Big Difference® scheme where members donate the pennies from the interest on their accounts just once a year, to help smaller charities around the UK.

The Foundation has donated £1,000 to Linton's Granta Grapevine Talking Newspaper to enable them to buy a new USB stick multi-copier.

The volunteer-run charity produces a 90 minute recording on a USB stick, of interviews and local news from the Linton and South Cambridgeshire area which is distributed free each month to blind and visually impaired people.

The new USB copier will allow someone with no computer knowledge to use it.

Rose Knightley, manager of the Society's Newmarket branch, said: "At Yorkshire Building Society we pride ourselves on providing real help for real lives... by supporting those charities which make a real difference in our community."

In 2017, the Charitable Foundation donated £234,684 to more than 200 charities and good causes nominated by members and colleagues from around the UK.

For more information about our Small Change Big Difference® scheme and to see an interactive map of recent Charitable Foundation donations visit www.ybs.co.uk/charitablefoundation Yorkshire Building Society

URGENT

Linton News Needs You

OUR Linton News delivery manager has had to retire unexpectedly after two years of excellent service to the paper. We do have temporary cover for the next few months as Vernon Boyd has stepped in but we need volunteers to take on the work on a more permanent basis.

There are four main parts to the delivery to be done each month:

- Organising the list of who is to deliver the papers and where to.
- Receiving/getting the newspapers from the printer.
- Packing the papers into bundles wrapped in polythene bags (takes 2-3 hours)
- Taking the bundles and delivering them to the deliverers (takes 2-3 hours)

The paper's issue date is on the first Monday of the month. This means the paper needs to be delivered to each house the weekend before that; the bulk delivery to the deliverers two days before that. Expenses for car use etc are covered.

So, if you think you can be of help, please contact me on 891517 or lneditor@linton.info

Fran Armes, Editor

A scarecrow in your hedgerow?



PREPARATIONS for the first Linton Scarecrow Festival are now well under way. Students at the Linton Heights School are busy designing a logo, many clubs and societies are planning stalls and talks, three musical groups are booked, food, bunting, raffle and sponsorship are all being planned and made.

Now it's your turn.

We would like families and individuals in the village to join in the scarecrow-making fun. To help you along, we will be holding a Scarecrow Workshop at 7.30pm on Monday 21st May at St Mary's Church where you can get some ideas for producing your scarecrow. The scarecrows will be placed around the village over the weekend of 29th June to 1st July, the Parish Council generously having produced a trail guide and competition.

Having a clear out? You could team your scarecrow with a small garage or table-top sale. Want to raise money for a charity? Place a collecting box with your scarecrow. The trail guide will bring visitors to you.

If you'd like to sign up to making a scarecrow, just be in touch with me on 890921 before 21st May and don't forget, if you have a dog, you might like to enter it in the dog show which will be on the 30th June thanks to the Belgrave House Veterinary Surgery.

Pam Richardson

Bunting for the Scarecrow Festival

A GROUP of ladies from the church and WI have been beavering away making bunting for the scarecrow festival which is on 29th June-1st July. Initially we are offering this to residents in the High Street.

The aim is to decorate every house and shop.

Bunting will be available from 16th June. If you are happy to display some bunting, please send your name, address, telephone number and how many metres of bunting you would like, to me at 1 Green Lane, Linton

Cathy Watts, 893687

Latest from The Pear Tree

THERE will be a Mix and Mingle spring preview and fund raising event at the Pear Tree in Hildersham, from 5pm to 10pm on 18th, 19th and 20th May.

Chef Gael Lecolley says "Hildersham and Linton villagers are invited to a private preview of the Pear Tree, Pear and Olive Scratch Kitchen to see our plans in anticipation of the reopening.

Learn how Hildersham and neighbouring villagers can help to give support to the final countdown of the opening of this village community asset.

We look forward to meeting each and every one of our neighbours at the fun fundraising event."

Light canapés and wine will be served.

Come and see how villagers can be involved.

Cat and Gael Lecolley, 07539393060

The Bartlow Walk is now

ONCE again it is time to put on your walking boots and come along to the 15th Bartlow Three Counties Walk on Sunday 6th May at Hills Farm Bartlow. Registration opens at 9.30am. If you wish to complete the 13 mile walk you must be ready to start by 11.15am. You can register in advance online at: bartlow3countieswalk.co.uk

All the family is welcome and dogs on leads too. There will be Linton Jazz Band playing, a bouncy tractor, face painting and refreshments. Toilets and refreshments are also available on route.

There is a new route for the six-mile walk, and a Roman theme for the one-mile walk. The nine and 13-mile walks are also great fun, and pass through beautiful countryside not usually accessible to walkers.

Duncan Ogilvy 893644

Nights and Knights at Linton Infants



EDUCATING children takes many different forms, and many of these take place outside the classroom. This half term has been full of enrichment activities for the children, all of which we hope have taught the children different skills.

Our Night at the Museum sleepover was a great success. By 10.30pm all 72 children were snuggled down in their sleeping bags after enjoying a movie and popcorn. It was an early start on Saturday morning, but then we did have 72 breakfasts to serve. It was lovely to see children reassuring each other, building confidence and enjoying spending time together.

Our whole school trip to Mountfitchet Castle was also a great success, although it was

a very cold day. The children enjoyed firing water balloons from the Trebuchet, investigating the Inner Keep, trying on armour and helmets and interacting with the animals. Thank you to our army of staff and parents who spent the day with us.

Our topic for the next term is Around the World in 80 Days and we have a trip to *Africa Alive* booked as our entry point to the topic. We have lots of visitors coming into the school to talk about different countries as we explore Africa, America, Antarctica, Japan, France, India and Australia. We hope the children will continue to develop their thirst for knowledge and exploration of the world around them.

Kelly Harries, Headteacher



Easter projects at the Heights

AFTER much anticipation and excitement a new, outdoors child multi-gym has been constructed in our school grounds. The whole project began following comments made by pupils and governors in December 2017 that playtimes would be further enhanced by even more engaging play equipment. Eager to find out more, Caroline Webb (deputy head teacher) liaised with the school's pupil-led Junior Leadership Team (JLT) to find out exactly what was required and they, in turn, selected the desired equipment.

A grant from the National Lottery was applied for and gained. The construction took place on three days over the Easter holidays. True to his word Darren from Premier Play Solutions stuck to the agreed timetable and the units were installed in time for the pupils' return.

Following on from the pupils' excitement during the Monday morning assembly, when I briefed the school about the new arrival to our school grounds, I had concerns that all 241 pupils would make a dash for it at first break, but mercifully, Mr. Wilson was able to hold back the crowd and insist on a four at a time policy.

Feedback from pupils and parents has been very positive. All of the staff have also had a go and several are thinking of ending their gym subscriptions in favour of this free, outdoor alternative.

Another project also went on across the Easter holidays – namely the restoration of the 44 year old parquet flooring in the hall. Sadly, this beautiful flooring, which is a quintessential feature of a 1970s school building, had been left untreated for many years. Thanks to Steve Robinson from Renue, the flooring looks even better than new. The distinctive smell on entry to the school has now gone and this gleaming flooring will go on to serve the school and local community for at least another 44 years.

Thank you to all involved with recent projects. Together you have ensured that the best facilities are provided for our children.

James Puxley, Headteacher

Anderson Trust awards for community life

THE Anderson Trust was established in 1998 after the sale of Church Cottage in Linton, former home of Professor Charles and Mrs Mary Anderson.

According to the Trust Deed the Trust's purpose is to promote the Christian religion in and from the Parish of St Mary's; to sustain the Church of St Mary's and worship therein; to promote education for the benefit of those living in or resorting to Linton, particularly for the benefit of the Church School and of religious teaching in Linton and for any other charitable purpose for the benefit of those living in or resorting to Linton.

At their meeting on March 19th, the Trustees approved the 2018 distribution of £8,779 interest, received from investments, to the following applicants:

- £5,000 to the Beacon Youth Trust towards the salary and on-costs of a Youth Worker;
- £1,153 to St Mary's Church towards resources to develop children's and families' ministry;
- £1,076 to Linton Infant School PTFE for supplementary reading books;
- £1,000 to Friends of Granta School for replacement white goods in the 6th form common room
- £500 to Linton Children's Book Festival to provide authors for school visits.

An invitation to apply for 2019 grants will be issued in the November edition of the Linton News.

Gillian Powell, Chair of Trustees, 893664



lintongrantaplaygroup
Pre-school and toddler group
Linton, Cambridgeshire

IT seems unbelievable to us that it's the summer term already. We have a busy time ahead, preparing the Pre-Schoolers for their next step in their learning adventure, organising our Summer Fair fundraiser and arranging our end of academic year trip amongst many other things.



Lottie, winner of our Easter hat competition
Picture supplied by LGPG

We will be welcoming work experience students from Linton Village College as well as from other local schools, having an open morning and having a royal celebration for Harry and Megan.

Much use has been made of our wonderful mud kitchen and developing our vegetable patch. If you would like to volunteer your gardening skills please don't hesitate to get in contact with us. Linton Granta Playgroup staff



Come and visit us

CHESTNUT Playgroup is pleased to announce that our next open day will be on Monday 11th June. We trialled our new look open days last year and found parents and children very much enjoyed seeing the playgroup during a normal session. This allowed the children to interact with current children, and parents to talk to staff and see how their child enjoyed the playgroup environment. If you wish to book a visit please contact our administrator or playgroup direct on 07817 069696. Half hour slots will be available from 9.30am – 11.30am.

We are very much looking forward to making use of our garden this term with all our lovely new equipment and learning resources. We are also excited to join with the village to celebrate the Children's Book Festival and Scarecrow Festival later in the year.

A huge thank you goes to the Mannion family for donating a much needed new stairgate to playgroup. We really appreciate this generous gift.

There are a few places available for this academic year for children from two years to school age and are booking in for September. Our opening hours are 9am to 2.30pm Monday to Friday, and we offer a range of morning, lunch and afternoon sessions. Please contact our Administrator for further information. Email admin@chestnutplaygroup.org.uk or ring 07342 900120.

Wendy Hine Chestnut Playgroup

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Friday	9:15am - 5:45pm
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Last appointment for Saturday is 2pm

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Readers write...

Post and email addresses and deadline for letters are on this page. All letters for publication must have a full name, address or phone number to enable us to check authenticity. Letters may be edited. Opinions are not necessarily those of the Linton News. Anonymous letters will NOT be published but names and addresses may be withheld if requested.

OUR THANKS

Giant Easter Egg Raffle

Dear Editor,
The Saffron Walden Lions Club annual charity raffle in 10 pubs around the district raised more than £1000 for Toms Trust (help for children with brain tumours). Congratulations and thanks to The Crown In Linton which was top of all the donors again for the fourth year running, raising an amazing £320. The winner of the egg this year was Mark Ferdinandi of the High Street, Linton.
Derek Lockstone

Johnathon Veira concert

Dear Editor
We just wanted to thank everyone for their help and support with the Jonathan Veira concert. It was a great success, the quality of his singing was superb and a great evening's entertainment was had by all. The event was a complete sell out with many people coming from surrounding villages and towns as far afield as Chelmsford and Amersham. It achieved our objective of opening up our church to a wider audience. As a bonus we made £515 profit after all expenses paid, which has been donated towards the upkeep of St Mary's church.
Derek and Colleen Lockstone

Easter fund raiser

Dear Editor
On Saturday 14th April our family and friends held an Easter fundraiser which included easter egg hunts, cake stalls, face painting and much more to raise money for the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit at Addenbrookes. Our daughter was born prematurely seven years ago so this unit lies close to our hearts and we wanted to do something to say thank you for the amazing work they do for saving such tiny lives. We would like to thank all the local businesses who donated prizes for our raffle and we would like to thank all those who came and supported the event who helped us raise an amazing amount of £341.41.
Thank you all once again.
Charlene Hayes

PLODDING ALONG

An update on police matters

IN the week beginning 19th March there were 15 separate crimes for criminal damage around the village, due to graffiti. These crimes were linked to the main crime at Linton Village College
On the 29th March the police reported that they had two suspects in custody that week and interviewed them over the damage caused. They are waiting on final quotes for repairs from LVC, the Parish Council and other residents and once they have those and their outstanding forensic work has been completed, they will make a decision as to what happens with both suspects.
PC Rebecca Parkin
SOMETIME between 1.30pm and 4.50pm on Saturday 7th April a vehicle was broken into in Balsham Road. A handbag containing personal effects and documentation was stolen.
In the early hours of 18th April a house in Wheat Croft was broken into. Two laptops, cash and car keys were stolen. These have been used to take the car from the drive.
Overnight between 18th and 19th April index plates were removed from a vehicle parked in The Grip
PCSO Chris Wiseman, Sawston police station

Gardening Club

JANE Sills gave us a talk about the *Restoration of Ramsey Walled Garden* for our April meeting. The garden is situated within the boundaries of Ramsey Abbey. Sir Richard Cromwell acquired the site in 1540 after the dissolution of the monasteries. The Fellows family purchased the estate in 1737. Work was carried out on the old house and a new garden commissioned. The garden produced vegetables, fruit and flowers for more than 100 years.

In the 1950s the site was a market garden growing mainly scabious for Leeds market. In the 1960s the garden became very neglected and overgrown until it was *discovered* in 1996. At that time it was almost impossible to get into the garden due to the brambles. A Trust was formed and work began to restore it to the beautiful garden it had been.

Having retired, Jane Sills moved from London to Ramsey. She loved gardening and became one of the volunteers. The garden was opened to visitors in 2010.

The Club's plant sale will be held between 10am and noon on Saturday 12th May at 3 Mill Lane. Do come along and see if there are any new plants for your garden. There will also be produce for sale. Donations of plants, produce or cakes will be much appreciated and may be delivered to 3 Mill Lane on Friday 11th May.

Our talk at 7.30pm on 8th May in the Village Hall will be *Ferns and Other Foliage Plants for the garden*. Visitors are very welcome.
Anita Daws, 892113
lgsecretary@yahoo.com

WI annual meeting

APRIL is the month when we review the events of the past year and elect new officers and committee members. As there were no new nominations for committee there was no need for a secret ballot, and Shelley Ray will be President for a further year, Sue Smales will continue as Treasurer and Sally Proberts as Secretary. The other four committee members also agreed to continue. The President's, Treasurer's and Annual Reports were read out and, although our membership has dropped slightly, our financial situation remains buoyant thanks to our fundraising efforts, and we are optimistic about the future of Linton WI.

It was mentioned that Linton WI started 100 years ago on 18th April, although we can't claim this as continuous since it stopped before World War II and restarted in 1943. Therefore, this year is our 75th anniversary.

After the business of the evening, cheese, wine, other nibbles and cake were enjoyed and entertainment was provided by a beetle drive. On behalf of the members, Margaret Clark thanked all the committee for the hard work they have put in during the past year.

At our next meeting on the 1st May, our speaker will be Mr Lambert (accompanied by his dog) on the subject of medical detection dogs.

New members are welcome and you can always come as a visitor for a small fee before committing yourself.
Sally Proberts, 891021

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THE LINTON NEWS Next Publication 4th June 2018
DEADLINES for ADVERTS Monday 14th May
NEWS ITEMS Wednesday 16th May

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, 891517 email: ineditor@linton.info

For distribution queries contact:
Delivery manager, Vernon Boyd, 892795
or email Lndelivery@linton.info

LINTON DIARY

For entry in this list, ensure that your event is written into the diary in the Post Office; failure to do so could mean non-entry to the diary here. You may also email your event details to diary@linton.info. Call 893619 for an audio version of the Linton News. Details of items in bold type may be found in this edition.

- WEEKLY**
Little stars SEN group, alternate Mondays 1.15-2.45pm CC
Beacon Astro Football, Mondays, 3.05-4.30pm LVC
Netball, Monday evenings, 6.30pm junior, 7.30pm adult LVC
Linton Granta football bingo, Mondays, 7pm Pavilion
Men's keep fit, Mondays, 8-9.30pm LVC sports centre
Linton theatre workshop, Mondays (call Joe 01440 703701)
WEA, Tuesdays, 10am term-time VH
Linton Air Cadets Mon and Thurs 7-9.30pm (07717801056) LVC
Scrabble Club, alternate Tuesdays, 10am-12noon CP
Linton Granta playgroup, Monday-Friday, 9am-12noon LVC
Linton Granta Toddler grp, Tuesdays term time 9.30-11.30, LVC
Linton Granta playgroup, Mon-Fri, 8.30am-2.30pm LVC
Storytime, Tuesdays, term-time, 2-2.30pm Library
Granta duplicate bridge club, Tuesdays, 2-4pm VH
Beacon Red Zone Youth Club, Tuesdays, 7-8.30pm LVC
IT club-computer help, Tuesdays, 7pm CC
Linton chess club, Tuesdays, 7.30pm CC
Belleplate ringing, Tuesdays, 7.45-9pm (971057) URC
Tots in tow, Wednesdays term time only, 9.30-11am VH
Beacon Girls Group, Wednesdays, 3.05-4.30pm REC
Jelly Beans playgroup, Thursdays, 9.30-11.30am URC
Doodle Dots under 5s, Thursdays 10-11.30am, CC
New Beginnings (with Baby Sensory), Thursdays, 1.15-2.45pm CC
Computer buddies, Thursdays, 2-4pm Library
Beacon drop-in Club, Thursdays, 5.30-7pm REC
Cricket club, Thursdays, 6-8pm LVC
Beacon Youth Group, Fridays, 7-8.30pm, URC
Parents, carers and tots Mocha house, Fridays, 9.15-10am CP
Stay and Play, Fridays 10am-11.30am CC
St Mary's church choir, Fridays, 7-8.30pm CC
Linton Bridge club, Fridays, 7pm, CC
For sports centre courses please call LVC sports centre on 890248

- MAY 2018**
5 Farmers' Market with Fairtrade stall, 9am-12noon VH
5 **Recital, 7.30pm** St Botolph's Church Hadstock
6 **Bartlow walk, from 10am,** Hills Farm Bartlow
7 Camera Club, 7pm VH
8 **VIP Group, 2pm** Chalklands
8 **Garden Club, 7.30pm** VH
9 Community navigator, 10am-12noon HC
12 **Love your library, 10am - 1pm** Library
12 **Garden Club plant sale, 10am** 3 Mill Lane
12 Family Quiz, 4pm St Mary's Church
12 **Not the Eurovision song contest, 7pm** URC
13 Lighthouse, 10.15am-12noon URC
14 **Dementia Friends talk, 2pm** Library
14 Whist Drive, 7.30pm VH
15 **Historical Society, 7.30pm** VH
16 Cambridgeshire hearing help, 9.30-12 noon LintonHC
16 Coffee Morning, 10.30am URC Hall
17 Linton Parish Council meeting, 7.30pm, CC
18 Daylight readers, 10.30am Library
18/19/20 **Mix and Mingle, 5-10pm Pear Tree Hildersham**
18 **Friends of St Mary's AGM, 7.30pm** Church Pavilion
19/20 **Children's Bookfestival, 10am** LVC
20 Walking group, 11am, Church Lane
20 Messy Church, 2.30pm St Mary's Church
22 **Junior Sewing Bee Drop-in, 3.15pm** LIS

- JUNE 2018**
2 Farmer's Market with Fairtrade stall, 9am-12noon VH
5 **Junior Sewing Bee Drop-in, 3.15pm** LIS
5 **WI, 7.30pm** VH
KEY: CC Cathodeon centre, CP church pavilion, D&D Dog and Duck, HC health centre, LH Linton Heights school, LIS Linton Infant school, LVC Linton village college, RG recreation ground, URC United Reformed church, VH village hall.
Library times: Mon closed; Tue 10am-5pm; Wed 4pm-7pm; Thurs 2pm-5pm; Fri 10am-5pm; Sat 10am-1pm.
Bin Collection Dates
Linton refuse collection: Monday 14th May & Tuesday 29th May
Linton blue and green bin collections: Tuesday 8th May & Monday 21st May

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Let's be having you

THE Linton Walking Football Club is in need of more members, so if you are over 50 years of age and enjoy the beautiful game, then we would like to see you. After playing in the sports hall at the College during the winter, we are outside again now and playing by the small pitch adjacent to the Pavilion.

So if you want to get fit and have some fun at the same time, then please come and join us on Tuesday evenings from 7pm to 8pm. Your first time will be free, then it's just £2 each time you play. So come on.... get out of that chair and get some fresh air.
Michael Judge, 891886

Linton Air Cadets

ELEVEN cadets from Linton attended this year's Easter Camp. It was a huge success with both cadets Ward and Miles hitting bullseye in the archery. The main exercise run by the RAF regiment regulars is always popular, but couldn't top the camp highlight - an air experience flight in a Chinook.

With one camp behind us we can now look forward to sending cadets to RAF Northolt, Cranwell and Syerston for our annual, aerospace and RAF100 camps. In total we will have filled our allocation of over 30 camp spaces this summer.

For those remaining back on the squadron there will still be plenty to do. With the *Youth First Aid qualification* training and *Entry Level Award for health and safety* being two nationally recognised qualifications being completed on the squadron.

With the hotter weather also comes our paddle sports events. We had an excellent allocation of basic kayak and canoe training throughout the summer and these are always very popular.

It's not just the cadets who get a chance to experience the very best of the RAF. The Corps is committed to staff development and this summer we will be sending squadron staff to train the trainer first aid courses, expedition and Duke of Edinburgh training courses.

We will be looking to recruit to Linton Squadron this summer. Cadet numbers have been very high and stable but we now have enough staff to accommodate more cadets on squadron. Please give me a call if you would like to join as a cadet or as an adult volunteer.

Cl Brad Wright, Training Officer, 2523(Linton), 07943 873272, training.2523@aircadets.org

News from St Mary's

THE following three events take place this month:
Godparents' Sunday - Are you a godparent, or do you have godparents? Parents often take great care in selecting people to be godparents for them, because they're important. We'd like to mark that fact. At 10 am on Sunday 13th May in St Mary's, Linton, we'll be celebrating godparents. Please come and join us: it will be an all-age service.
Christian Aid Service - That same afternoon, we will be starting Christian Aid week (mentioned on page 1) with another special service, turning our eyes outwards to the wider world, and pray for the collection which will be taking place during the following days. We will especially remember the people of Haiti - victims of earthquake and hurricane. Many of them are still displaced, and living in temporary accommodation.
Thy Kingdom Come Prayer for our Village During that following week, at St Mary's we shall also turn our eyes closer to home, with a special service at 7.30 pm on Wednesday 16th May, to pray for our village. This is part of an international wave of prayer called *Thy Kingdom Come*, initiated by the Archbishop of Canterbury two years ago. Please join us - we would specially love to have members of other Christian communities praying with us that evening for God's reign in Linton. Equally, if you would like to take the *Thy Kingdom Come* prayer pledge as an individual or family, you can register that at pledge2pray@thykingdomcome.global.
Maggi Guite (Rector), margaret.guite@icloud.com

Linton Talent

YET another talented young person from Linton is Thomas Sargeant. After taking some time to find his true career pathway Thomas decided to follow in the footsteps of his father, Jamie Sargeant, a pupil of David



Oscar Wilde plaque
Picture by Sarah Hurcum



Thomas at work
Picture by Sarah Hurcum

Kindersley, the internationally renowned letter cutter and once a Linton resident himself.

Thomas was awarded a bursary from The Lettering and Commemorative Arts Trust and obtained an apprenticeship in a stonemasons' workshop in Brighton. He quickly showed

a natural talent and won a contract to design and carve a memorial plaque for the Oscar Wilde Society. The plaque is now installed in St. James's Church, Paddington, London.

In 2015 he was invited to St James's Palace to meet Prince Charles, the patron of The Queen Elizabeth Scholarship Trust, with whom he is now a scholar.

Thomas has since created carvings for the RAF, St. Paul's Cathedral and several memorial stones for private individuals.

He has now turned his hand to sculpture as well and his work can be seen on his website www.thomassargeant.com. Linton can be very proud of his achievements. So am I. He's my nephew.

Sarah Hurcum

Summer with The Friends

THE Friends of St Mary's are putting on a number of events this summer. The first is the AGM at 7.30pm on Friday 18th May in the Pavilion, behind the church. This meeting, which will be followed by refreshments, is open to members and anyone interested in what The Friends are doing and might like to join.

The Friends will also be organising the ever popular Teddy Bear Jumps from the church tower on the Sunday of the Scarecrow Festival as well as running their merchandise stall.

There will be summer Tea Parties on two Saturday afternoons in July to which all are welcome, at 8 The Furrells on 21st July and 11 Mill Lane on 28th July.

There is no charge but donations to The Friends are welcome.

Margaret Cox, 891231

Not the Eurovision Song Contest Quiz

THIS now annual quiz is due to take place again this year on the same evening as the Eurovision Song Contest, Saturday 12th May. The evening starts at 7pm in the Free Church Hall in Horn Lane. The price is £5 per head and includes a fish and chip supper (or equivalent). Contestants are asked to bring their own quiz.

The quiz is open to all. It will range across various subjects, including the usual and somewhat less usual. Fleeting acknowledgement will be paid to the Eurovision Song Contest with a couple of bonus questions.

Those wishing to attend should inform the Quizmaster, Steve Munday, via email on Munday5@aol.com and include their choice of either fish, or sausage or veggie burger and chips.

Steve Munday, 890358

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Love your library

EVERYONE is invited to a special Love Your Library event at Linton Library from 10am to 1pm on Saturday 12th May.

There will be live music, an exciting storytime and other fun activities for children, plus a book sale, raffle and refreshments. You can also borrow books, as usual.

Please come and help us launch the seventh Linton Children's Book Festival and celebrate all that the library offers our community.

At 2pm on Monday 14th May we are hosting a talk by Chantal Bradley of Dementia Friends. This is a free, drop-in event so no need to book.

With the weather warming up, you are probably tempted to spend more time in your garden. The library has a great selection of gardening books to help you make the most of the growing season. We also have all kinds

of other books to read while you relax in the long-awaited sunshine.

A notice about library computer use:

From 1st May 2018, Cambridgeshire Libraries is introducing a £1 hourly charge for computer access after an initial 30 minutes free.

Everyone may use library computers for free for the first 30 minutes, and children up to the age of 18 and Jobseekers will be able to continue using computers free of charge at all times.

Additional websites for government and council services (universal credit, child benefit applications, etc.) will remain free to browse.

Like other library fees, the charge will generate income to be reinvested in our book stock.

Anna McMahon
Linton Community Library

Linton VIP's (Camsight)

THE VIP's Annual General Meeting was held at their monthly meeting held at the Chalklands Centre in Linton on Tuesday 10th April. This was followed by some very enjoyable musical entertainment provided by David Alban of Linton. He played and sang a wide variety of popular songs including requests from the members, and this was followed by our afternoon tea and raffle. The next meeting will be held at 2pm on Tuesday 8th May at the Chalklands Centre, when a new member of the Camsight team will give a talk on Legacies and will be accompanied by his German shepherd guide dog Amber..
Jean Mannion 893595.

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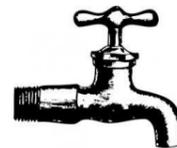
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FARMING MATTERS

A Testing Spring April 2018

ASI write this we are currently several weeks behind our routine farming operations for the time of year. This is of course down to the recent wet and cold weather that we have been experiencing.

On the Bartlow Estate about 60% of our crops are planted in the Autumn (August to October) and the remainder in the late winter/spring (January to early April).

The reason that we do this is to help give the soil a bit of a break from production and as a helpful side effect the non-cropped fields over winter provide a different and interesting option for birds and other wildlife to explore so providing benefits to both food production and conservation (more on conservation another time).

The effect of a delay in field operations is that crops will produce less grain and as a result will reduce our farming income. Less grain because quite simply they will have a shorter growing period as crops tend to naturally die off at the same time each year regardless of weather.

When you see tractors rushing around the fields at the moment they will be either planting malting barley destined for lager, sugar beet used in raw granulated sugar and soft drinks (a great British product reducing food miles), marrow-

fat peas and beans (the dried type that you boil or rehydrate before eating)

Other operations include feeding the existing crops that have been planted in the autumn, winter wheat provided to Warburtons for bread or to Weetabix and Oilseed rape for cooking oil and engine lubricants (the yellow flowered crop that you may see at the moment). By feeding I mean spraying fertiliser and other nutrients onto the plant leaves to ensure crop health and vitality.

From early spring, every three weeks we analyse the sap in the crop leaves to tell us if they are lacking in any elements of nutrition and feed accordingly. That way nothing is wasted and the plants get all that they need to be healthy and productive, much like how you might look after an athlete.

Over the next few weeks, crops will be growing very quickly as the higher temperatures combine with rain-soaked soils and you will notice oilseed rape crops coming into flower.

Hopefully by the next instalment all spring planting will be complete and crops well on their way to full production.

**Jason Turnbull,
Bartlow Estate, 892327**

Extracts from the District Councillors' report

BELOW is a selection from the April report to the Parish Council.

Policing

The Police and Crime commissioner is decommissioning all the rural police stations and is actually closing some. Warranted Officers will now only be based in the four major stations at Parkside, Huntingdon, Peterborough and Ely. There will be three PCSOs based in the station in Cambourne, who will have some 60 villages to cover between them. Our local PCSO is Leanne Fisher.

Community Chest

The well-used Community Chest grant has re-opened and has £57,000 in to be bid upon from community groups, including Parish Councils. Full details, and applications can be found at <https://www.scams.gov.uk/communitychest>

Ely Southern Bypass

By rushing this much wanted piece of infrastructure through the planning and design stage, the scheme is now costing the taxpayer an extra £13million. It has become evident that the scope of work was underestimated

Designation

South Cambs has exceeded that threshold on quality of decision making at which they can be designated a planning authority. This means they are at risk of losing their decision-making powers as they are judged so poor at making the correct decision. The threshold is that they must win 10% of the appeals brought against them.

Referrals to Planning Committee

There have been many refusals to refer planning applications to the Planning Committee over the last two years, requests by both Parish Councils and District Councillors. We are told that once the five-year land supply is in place there will be more opportunities for applications, other than large unplanned ones, to be heard by the Committee.

Councillors Henry and John Batchelor

Hildersham News

EVENTS for May are as follows:

Hildersham Barn dance

From 7pm to 10pm on 12th May at Manor Farm Barn with Ceilidh Band *Arm-in-Arm*. Bar and raffle.

Tickets: adults £15, children £5 including hog roast supper, available from Kate Huntsman 894862.

A free seminar

From 7.30pm to 9.30pm on 22nd May in Hildersham village hall. *Demystifying the teenager and understanding youth culture.*

This is a free seminar for parents, youth leaders, teachers and anyone working with 11 to 18 year-olds led by Rachael Heffer, Youth Advisor for Ely Diocese

The Hildersham lecture

From 7.30pm on May 27th at Hildersham Church. *What if Shackleton had landed, would he have got across Antarctica?*, an illustrated talk by Robert Burton, naturalist, traveller and lecturer on many tours to the Antarctic.

Entry £5, including refreshments. U18s free.

For further details contact Cathy Myer on 892848 or email: catherinemeyer43@btinternet.com

News from The Pear Tree

There will be a Mix and Mingle spring preview and fund raising event at the Pear Tree, from 5 to 10pm on 18th, 19th and 20th May. See page 1 for further details.

Cathy Myers

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Linton and District Historical Society

VIC BOTTERILL was intrigued by the history of Nursery Rhymes and his research revealed hidden meanings. References to *blackbirds* related to churchmen, and pies delivered to the Monarch often concealed bribes.

Sing a Song of Sixpence depicts Henry VIII, first wife Catherine, and Thomas Cromwell, who featured in the downfall of the maid Anne Boleyn.

Similarly, Old Mother Hubbard (Cardinal Wolsey) went to the cupboard (the Pope), but could not bring back a bone (the divorce) for the dog (Henry again).

The dissolution of the monasteries caused widespread unemployment and it is alleged that when the Abbot of Glastonbury sent Henry a pie containing 12 property deeds, Thomas Horner *put in his thumb* and stole one of the documents.

Three Blind Mice involves the Catholic Mary I and possibly the execution of the three Bishops who sanctioned Anne Boleyn's marriage or alternatively of three blind men who paid for a public reading of the English Bible. Mary may also have been *quite contrary* as the *cockle shells* etc. were instruments of torture.

Under protestant Elizabeth I, Catholic families occasionally concealed priests (Goosey ganders) in ladies' bedchambers. If caught, they might be thrown down the stairs.

Vic warned that often there is no definitive explanation, but nursery rhymes do offer us a glimpse of the nation's history.

Our next meeting is at 7.30pm on Tuesday 15th May when we will hear from Mike Petty on The History of the Cam.

Pat Faircloth, 893928

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Pot Pourri 156 - What is the Distance?

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Wandlebury

EVENTS for May are as follows

Tuesday 8th May from 10.30am to 12.30pm

Wild Flowers walk round Wandlebury. Free no need to book - donations welcome. Meet at the notice board next to the car park.

Wednesday 23rd May from 2pm to 3pm

Wandlebury Orchard Walk free event no need to book - donations are welcome. Meet at the notice board next to the car park.

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

Half-Term Events for Children with Vital Spark - all at the Stable Rooms, Wandlebury.

Tues 29th May from 10.30am to 12noon

Fairy tale favourites adventure for accompanied children aged two to six years. There is a charge and booking is essential. Includes a snack, dress for outside.

Tues 29th May from 12noon to 4pm

Nature puppets and puppetry for unaccompanied children aged six to 11 years. There is a charge and booking is essential. For unaccompanied children. Includes a snack, dress for outside.

Friday 1st June from 5pm to 6.30pm

Wild bedtime stories. Wear your pjs, dressing gowns, onesies (and probably wellies). Booking essential. Children must be accompanied and the charge includes hot chocolate.

For more information and booking on vital Spark Events email Katherine@vitalsparktheatre.org

Balsham Singers

THE Balsham Singers' Spring Concert is on Saturday 19th May in Holy Trinity Church Balsham, and is a celebration of the centenary of Hubert Parry, one of Britain's most famous choral composers. Also included are songs by Franz Schubert, a selection of Abba favourites from Mamma Mia, and more.

The concert begins at 7.30pm, and tickets can be bought from the Post Offices in Balsham and Abington. They cost £10 in advance and £12 on the door.

Lesley Crisp,

balsham_singers@hotmail.co.uk

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The Marsh mail



THE beginning of May marks the start of the formal exam season in schools. Students at Linton Village College have been building up to this with revision in preparation for sitting the new, tougher 9-1 GCSE exams.

Before the Easter holidays we held a Study Skills evening for Year 10 and 11 parents and students including revision strategy workshops and resources, and a focus on the importance of wellbeing as part of a healthy and balanced approach to studying.

LVC staff were fortunate to benefit from a key note by a neurosurgeon on the teenage brain and the science of memory on our last training day. We also have a team of mental health champions that have received professional development from an Educational Psychologist to develop the skills to identify, promote and support students with mental health.

Stress and trauma can have a substantial negative impact on students' ability to learn, retain and recall knowledge and skills. At the very time in which teenagers are being tested in a significant number of lengthy examinations, they can find themselves under immense pressure to achieve academically, or as a result of other challenges in their lives.

We work very hard as a school to help our students to achieve a balanced and healthy approach to their academic endeavours. While it is important that they study hard and make the most of the learning opportunities afforded to them during their time at Linton Village College, we also ensure that this is not at the cost of personal wellbeing.

The focus on self-regulated study is not only to develop successful independent study skills for students, but to help them to achieve a responsible and sustainable approach to their educational pursuits.

We are proud to have a very strong track record for students' engagement in learning and employment after their time at Linton Village College. GCSE examinations are an important stepping stone in our students' futures. Leavers' day at the end of May marks an important rite of passage and celebration before students embark on independent study and their examinations.

Helena Marsh, Principal

Speedwatch volunteers wanted

SOUTH Cambs has active and very enthusiastic Speedwatch groups and would welcome new volunteers to help them run more sessions.

The Community Speedwatch scheme trains volunteers from members of the community to get actively involved in monitoring the speed of vehicles travelling through their neighbourhood.

Volunteers are trained to use speed indicator devices which display vehicle speeds. The registered owner of any vehicle seen exceeding the speed limit is sent an advisory letter by the Constabulary, explaining that speeding is unacceptable to the local community and asking them to be more considerate.

Volunteers typically offer one to two hours a month helping to reduce the speed of vehicles driving through their neighbourhood. There is no expected time commitment, volunteers attend sessions when

they like, and it's a great opportunity to meet new people, and enjoy the activity whilst benefiting your community.

Volunteers are fully trained and insured by the Constabulary.

Training sessions will be held on Saturdays: 12th May, 9th June and 14th July starting at 10.00am in Cambourne Police Station. If you would like to attend please book a space via e-mail.

If you would like more information please contact speedwatch@cambs.pnn.police.uk

Mike Brooks, Police Watch Co-Ordinator, Cambridgeshire

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The Way We Were

By Garth Collard

25 High Street



A view down the High Street

Picture from Garth's collection

BUILT in the 16th and 17th centuries, No 25 High Street was originally built of timber and plaster.

The front was remodelled in the late 18th and early 19th century. The new brick façade had fashionable sash windows on the first floor and two shop windows on the ground floor.

By 1613 the owner was William Cooke, a draper who rented the other shop to John Thurgar, a ropemaker, who used one of the large out-buildings as a workshop. The Cookes had five children but the property passed to Thomas Cooke, the illegitimate son of William's first wife. He promptly sold the property to a Haverhill baker, Stephen Hawkes. This became the largest bakery in Linton and Mr Hawkes seems to be the most likely person to have rebuilt the front of the house in brick.

In 1801 No. 25 was purchased by Robert Denny Pitt, a Saffron Walden auctioneer and surveyor who bought up several village properties. He retained half of No. 25 for his own use and let the remainder.

Charles Smoothy, a grocer

and draper rented the shop nearest to Market Lane.

In 1852 two women purchased some goods and tried to use two counterfeit shillings (approximately £1 each in today's money).

Shop keepers had been alerted that gangs of travellers in the area were attempting to pass counterfeit coins. The women were locked up in the village jail located on the ground floor of the old Market Hall. They were found to have had a bag with 45 counterfeit shilling pieces in their lodgings. The vagabonds were sent for trial at the Quarter Sessions in Cambridge.

ler secured exemption from conscription on the grounds that there was no one else to run his business. Imported food was in such short supply due to the German submarine campaign that the government did not want to close food retailers.

Also in the war in 1917 his two shop assistants, 21 year-old Cyril Seeley and 35 year-old Owen Hill, were killed. In the 1920's Edward suffered from depression and hanged himself in his shop in 1928.

The butchery business was rented by the Linton Co-op. The other shop had been rented to Barclays Bank in 1920 and this later moved across the road to the Linton Kitchen site in the 1950's.

Mr Speechley opened a radio and electrical shop at No.25 in the 1930's.

South Cambs re-numbered Linton High Street in 1960 so the two shops, Nos 23 and 25 were redesignated No. 25.

In 1973 Mr T Larcombe bought the property and changed it back to a house. The shop windows were replaced by sash windows matching those on the first floor.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

S/1440/18/TC. Mr and Mrs Eggleton, **The Watermill, 36 Mill Lane.** Remove 2 dead willow trees.

S/1333/18/FL, Mr John Wright and Ms Caroline Thompson, **7, Coles Lane.** Construct a single storey rear extension with a flat roof and roof lantern.

S/1218/18/LB and S/1217/18/FL, J Wilson, **Mill House, 32 Mill Lane,** Demolition of the existing garage, removal of link, conversion of the existing barn to provide a single residential dwelling (Use Class C3), two small replacement structures, a new garage with associated parking and landscaping.

S/1211/18/LD, Mrs E Cornell **23 Barley Way,** Lawful Development Certificate for proposed rear conservatory

S/1132/18/FL, Mr and Mrs J Coles, **3 Flaxfields,** Two storey side extension. Render existing house

S/1032/18/TC and S/1017/18/TC, Dr Chris and Yali Tyler-Smith and Xue, **14 High Street,** Tree works in Conservation Area

S/0917/18/FL and S/1017/18/TC, Mr Keith Mannion, **1The Furrells,** Two storey side extension and single storey rear extension. Two first floor dormers and minor amendments.

S/1035/18/FL& LB, J Wilson, Mill House, 32 Mill Lane, Conversion of existing stables to residential use, removal of extension and erection of a new extension with associated parking and landscaping

S/0326/18/FL, Aztecs Junior Football Club, c/o Mr Malcolm Peters, **Linton Village College,** Relocation of existing shed and new equipment stores

S/0669/18/LB, Mr and Mrs Powell, **8 Green Lane,** Alterations and extensions to the existing cottage, including replacement porch

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REGISTRATION is now open for the Sawston Fun Run on Sunday May 13th, so sign up online or download an application form from the website.

The major project for 2018 is to support a YMCA initiative to provide relationship counselling to children in certain Cambridgeshire primary schools. Also supporting their work with particularly vulnerable individuals by funding a room in the Cambridge hostel.

Another beneficiary is Adenbrooke's Charitable Trust with the purchase of a CO2 ventilator module for the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit at the Rosie.

Many organisations working for the local community will also benefit, including Linton Infants School PTF.

If you can give a couple of hours to support us please call me on 872243 or email enquiries@sawstonfunrun.co.uk

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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.

Parish Council Clerking and Support Team (CAST)

I would like to begin by thanking the stellar CAST of Kate Wiseman - Clerk/Responsible Financial Officer (RFO), Anne Meeks - Assistant Clerk, and new member Maria French - Junior Assistant Clerk, for all their extremely hard work throughout the year. Especially in respect of the preparation of extensive documentation for the planning appeals for Horseheath Road and Back Road in January. As noted at the 2017 Annual Meeting of the Parish, to function effectively any parish council is entirely dependent on the expertise and dedication of the professional staff who support and guide its workings on a day to day basis. In the recent past Linton Parish Council staff turnover has been a major issue and it is great to have a settled and dedicated team. The clerking team answer hundreds of queries from residents each year as well as preparing for numerous meetings, statutory reports, other onerous tasks and emergencies of various kinds, eg fallen trees. I would also like to thank Chris Filby, our Village Custodian, who is out in all weathers battling snow, floods, litter and leaves, keeping our village clean and tidy.

Linton Parish Council Website and Social Media Pages

The clerking team has also been to the fore in the upgrading of the Linton Parish Council website and associated social media applications with a view to holding more frequent online surveys and consultations with residents. There is clearly an appetite in the village for this as a recent online survey arising from the Greater Cambridge Partnership Traffic Consultation in Linton generated 273 responses in 24 hours. The consultation exhibition was very well attended and it appears that in response to residents' concerns, the Greater Cambridge Partnership proposals for no right turn at the top of the High Street and the closing of the Dean Road Junction will be reviewed.

Membership of Linton Parish Council 2017-18

I am very pleased to say that during the year Linton Parish Council has been joined by four very able councillors who have already brought new energy and skills to the parish council. It is very much to be hoped that despite the demands on their time, they will in due course take over the leadership of Linton Parish Council. There are currently vacancies for three more parish councillors.

Planning Appeals - Horseheath Road and Bartlow Road

The appeals will be covered in more detail by the Chairman of the Planning Committee. I will just add that while it was disappointing to 'lose' the Horseheath Road appeal despite a strong case against it, it was very pleasing to 'win' the Back Road appeal - as of the two this was probably the most harmful to the village in

the long term. Also I know there will be widespread concern and incredulity in the village that neither school nor drainage capacity was deemed to be an issue in either appeal. Regretfully Linton Parish Council expect more applications - see Local Plan below.

South Cambridgeshire District Council (SCDC) Local Plan (LP) and Neighbourhood Plan (NP)

Regretfully the SCDC Local Plan which is the key part of the planning system in providing an effective check to further development outside the village envelope has been further delayed. This is due to a new statutory requirement to provide a buffer of 20% more additional new houses in addition to the existing five year housing target. The district councillors will be pleased to take questions on this. The delays to the LP have been due to the volume of major planning applications and appeals (nationally SCDC is near the top of the national table for applications) at a time of diminishing resources in SCDC. This has also impacted the support SCDC was able to offer Linton Parish Council in the final stages of the submission of the NP. However, the NP is fully developed in terms of the content and the policies proposed by residents. The NP now only requires additional technical documentation to meet the statutory requirements for submission. SCDC have now reaffirmed their commitment to provide these as soon as possible.

Recreation Ground, Skate Ramp and Sports Pavilion

This had already been identified by Linton Parish Council as a priority area for substantial upgrading when it became necessary (for safety reasons) to remove the existing skate ramp at short notice - since replaced with a temporary equivalent ramp. It has become apparent that this will be a major project on which further consultations with residents of all ages and a wide range of interest groups will be needed. This will, I believe, be a priority for the newly elected parish council in May. It is probable that the scale of work required to meet the needs and aspirations of villagers will require external funding by means of a Public Works Loan, although this is yet to be formally decided by the parish council. It has also become apparent that due to the ever increasing popularity of the Linton village Sports Pavilion for use by our very successful Football Club (Cup winners) and Cricket Club (League winners) and also for private parties and other events that expansion of the existing facilities is needed.

Financial Management, S137 Funds and Priorities

The financial reports are available for inspection and the annual audit will take place in May. A new financial management system has been implemented and thanks go to the Chairman of the Finance Committee, Cllr Graham Potter, and Kate Wiseman,

Clerk /RFO, for overseeing this. This parish council continues to be successful in reducing the amount of long term funds held (that is funds requested previously by former parish councils for work that was not undertaken). This was necessary to forestall the possibility of funds being clawed back from Linton Parish Council. The largest single annual contract is the Grounds Maintenance contract (for the upkeep of all the hedges and green spaces in the village) with a value of £26,500.00 per annum.

Linton Parish Council remains very committed both to enhancing and preserving the character of our historic village and supporting resident Special Interest Groups and other organisations, which add so much to village life and help and support those who need it. Attached is a list of the groups and organisations that currently benefit from Linton Parish Council support and which contribute so much to making Linton the vibrant, considerate and caring community that it is now and hopefully will long remain. Many of these groups are represented here today so please take your time to find out about the amazing work they do. It has been an honour to be part of it through Linton Parish Council.

Community Engagement/Contribution

Indeed while some necessary long term projects (especially related to protecting the unique environment and character of Linton) will have been undertaken the aim has also been to ensure that the residents currently contributing to the precept will see more short term benefits.

This is why it is pleasing to see projects for the Beacon Youth Trust, Summer Activities for young people and the Village Societies Day being supported by the parish council, and continued support for village sporting clubs such as Linton Village Cricket Club, AZTECS, Linton Granta Football Club and many more.

With the helpful contribution by a local resident and assistance of the Fire and Rescue Service another village defibrillator has been purchased and is sited at the Fire Station.

Other priorities include more engagement with residents, schools and local businesses by any means possible. This has included the very well attended public consultation on the proposed development along Back Road, a much improved online presence and an extended dialogue with schools to understand their issues and challenges. Linton Parish Council still needs to do more to understand the needs and problems faced by local businesses and to explore ways of assisting them to ensure that Linton remains a thriving centre for shops and businesses.

Conclusion

Lastly, I would like to thank the Vice Chairman, Cllr Merrie Mannassi, and other parish councillors for their support during the year and to congratulate all the newly elected councillors. I am sure Linton Parish Council will look forward to working with the newly elected district and county councillors not only on Linton issues but also wider concerns such as the A1307, the Greater Cambridge Partnership options (as they affect Linton) and environmental issues such as air pollution which I personally feel has not been properly addressed in Linton.

Cllr Paul Poulter
Chairman of Linton Parish Council
23rd April 2018

Orchards East - planting for food and the future

ORCHARDS East is a new project launched last month at Girton College, to research, conserve and promote the area's orchards. It will support community projects to identify historic orchards, survey the wildlife, and plant new orchards. Cllrs Beatrice Ward and Enid Bald recently attended an open day.

We learnt of the types of orchard, in gardens, farms, or around the "orchard villages" of Willingham and Cottenham, which depended on them for their livelihood. Orchards are not just places for fruit -what

grows between, in and on trees contributes to usefulness and biodiversity.

In Linton we have one community orchard, on Symond's Lane, which we would like to extend, adding further fruit types. The range of local fruit is more extensive than we thought, including apricots and figs. We could identify more sites to plant as orchards, again with community involvement. Perhaps at the Glebe land, Parsonage Way, or Pocket Park - where else? Churchyards were often an orchard, providing food for the poor - perhaps an

idea to be revived.

Tree health was a major topic, following the infections and infestations that are threatening many species. Hollow trees are not necessarily unhealthy, dangerous or due to fall - they have lost heartwood, not the living parts. Hollow trees support fungi, beetles and other wildlife that live on deadwood, so are important. Many examples of hollow trees were seen in Girton orchards - they are healthy, fruitful and still growing.

We have some ancient trees around Linton, but please contact the tree warden before you

work on them, as they might be rare species or of historic or landscape importance.

Fruit identification websites are being developed, using visual features, backed by DNA analysis. One name might cover several genotypes, and there might be several names for one type - more being found all the time, so keep looking!

For further information, contact gen.broad@uea.ac.uk visit the website www.orchardseast.org.uk or us through the parish council office.

Cllrs E Bald and B Ward

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Councilminutescouncilminutescouncilminutescouncilminutes

ABBREVIATED minutes of the Linton Parish Council (LPC/PC) meeting held at the Cathodeon Centre on Thursday 15th March 2018.

Present: Cllr Paul Poulter (chairman); Cllr Merrie Mannassi (vice-chair); Cllr Dr Brian Cox; Cllr Angharad Hammond; Cllr Kate Kell; Cllr Amy Smith; Cllr Simon Hill; Cllr Graham Potter; Cllr Brian Manley; Cllr John Bald; Cllr Chris Hine; Cllr Enid Bald. Clerk: Ms Kathryn Wiseman. County and District Cllr Henry Batchelor; District Cllr John Batchelor. Members of the public present: three.

Apologies for absence: Cllr Dr Beatrice Ward.

Councillors' declarations of interest: Cllr Mannassi declared a prejudicial interest in the proposed office expansion in village hall item. Cllrs Poulter and Hine declared prejudicial interests for the update on Horseheath Road planning application item. Cllr Hammond declared a prejudicial interest in the Back Road planning application item.

Chairman's comment: The chairman congratulated the planning team on their recent success with the public inquiry for the Back Road planning application, with special thanks to Cllrs Enid Bald, Kate Kell, Beatrice Ward and the external consultant Corrie Newell from CN Historic for their hard work. The chairman also thanked the clerking team for its support and Mark Flatman from Liz Lake Associates for his assistance in presenting on the landscape.

Open forum for public participation: A resident from Back Road was in attendance and thanked the team, Cllr E Bald, Cllr Ward, Cllr Kell and Corrie Newell from CN Historic for all their work to fight the Back Road planning application and expressed on behalf of the village that their efforts were very much appreciated.

Planning matters: Cllr E Bald requested that District & County Cllr Henry Batchelor request that Stephen Kelly, director of planning and new communities at South Cambridgeshire District Council (SCDC), attend a site visit to Green Lane.

Update on planning applications S/1969/15/OL and S/2553/16/OL, Horseheath Road, following the public inquiry: Cllr Enid Bald said it is felt that SCDC let Linton down on this appeal as they withdrew from defending against the application and left LPC as the sole objectors. The actual decision says up to 50 but there is conditioning applied to 42 dwellings as you cannot adjust the main application description. There was good conditioning put on this one, the whole application is only outline so when it comes to the matters reserved this is still up for discussion. There is a two year limit on starting the housing. Even though it was a loss, not everything was lost.

Update on planning application S/0096/17/OL, Back Road, for up to 95 new dwellings following the public inquiry: Cllr Enid Bald said: "We won!" The landscape has been designated as valued landscape and a lot of comments from the inspector can be used against other sites. Thank you to everyone, Corrie Newell, Mark Flatman, Cllr Beatrice Ward, Cllr Kate Kell, the district councillors, Jean Kelly, Paul Grey and Miss Binney. Should Gladman wish to appeal the decision its only option at this point is the High Court but this is hugely expensive. Gladman has done this a few times. It is not felt that this is a viable case for the high court due to the principles it was refused.

Report from the Parish Planning Forum meeting held at SCDC on the 21st February, synopsis: This brought in the Local Plan and there was a comment made that as the five year land supply plan was near, there have been some cases where some marginal planning applications near the edge of the village envelope may be reviewed. This could be applicable to the Bartlow Road site. The district councillors were asked to look into this.

There was focus on how the PC and district council interact and ways in which to strengthen aspects of the planning which can be reviewed going forward for LPC.

District and County Councillors' reports & business: Written report: Noted. Cllr Henry Batchelor advised that there will not be an adjustment to the frequency of buses to and from Cambridge, just when it arrives and departs within the hour.

Cllr John Batchelor advised that it was a disappointment in both the appeals was that no weight whatsoever was given to

the emerging Local Plan. A decision has been made in planning with the decision of prematurity due to the emerging Local Plan however the officers will only go for this on the very largest plans.

Neighbourhood Plan (NP): Update from Corrie Newell and Cllr Poulter on the progress and current stage of the Neighbourhood Plan: Cllr Poulter advised that just before Christmas 2017 the second draft of the NP was submitted with the mapping which goes with policies. Dave Roberts is the principle planning officer within the local planning team and advised that there should be a compression of policies, more narrative and an increase in consistency between Linton and Hildersham. LPC still needs to produce a sustainability statement, ecological and environmental statement and health check statement and can receive a grant of up to £1000 towards this from SCDC. These need to be completed and submitted with the final plan to prevent this going backwards and forwards and ensure this is robust. It is for this reason SCDC have asked Linton to go back and review aspects of the plan. This means that from this point the majority of the content is there and it is just a case of editing and condensing what LPC have into the correct format ready for resubmission.

SCDC have promised various funding for the three reports and also acknowledged that there had been issues with the mapping department at SCDC as staff reductions left it vastly understaffed. LPC have approached the company which did the screening for Abington's site to do the SEA screening and are currently awaiting a response.

It was raised that the NP does make a big difference in supporting the fight against unwanted development and that the current estimated time for completion would ideally be around June 2018.

SCDC had not put the resources in that LPC thought it would have or that had been promised which resulted in a greatly increased workload for LPC which has been carried out in conjunction with Corrie Newell at CN Historic. Corrie Newell has put together a list of what she would like to go back to the working groups so that the editing can be run by the PC. They are sending an annotated list which is not what we had before so we can justify the steps clearly.

Consideration of signing the new Memorandum of Understanding with SCDC: Corrie Newell advised that this is looked at very carefully. Cllr Hine proposed that this is signed which was seconded by Cllr Hammond. Put to a vote with seven for, none against and five abstentions. Agreed.

Traffic matters: The Greater Cambridge Partnership proposals review and formal response from council as a body required for the consultation period: It was noted by council that there has been a lot of input and this has not been a focus from council until now and it is an important aspect which is going to affect the village. A working group would be set up with Cllrs Ward, Mannassi and E Bald with all councillors welcome. Councillors can email through any comments to the clerk should they be unable to attend and these will be taken into consideration by the working group when putting forward the formal LPC response. Proposed by Cllr E Bald, seconded by Cllr Kell. Agreed.

Review of the copy of Mr Buckton's letter to Lucy Frazer regarding speeding traffic in Hadstock Road: Noted.

Village maintenance: Consideration of specification for the removal of the six dead trees at the bottom of Paynes Meadow and consideration of the quotations provided: Cllr Hine proposed that the clerk discussed with tree warden, Cllr Ward, and Cllr E Bald and continues with the cheapest quotation that matches the specification. Cllr J Bald seconded. Agreed.

Consideration of restraining the benches at the recreation ground and the two village noticeboards. Agreed.

Internal office: Consideration of the Local Council Public Advisory Service's (LCPAS) peer review of LPC: Noted.

Consideration of the report submitted by Cllr J Bald in relation to the peer review from LCPAS: Implementing systems. Eloquent appraisal. Disappointed with report as there was not much added value.

Consideration of the proposed office move and the newly advised annual rent following the extraordinary village hall trustees meeting: It was proposed by Cllr Poulter and seconded

by Cllr Hammond, put to a vote with nine for, none against and three abstentions. Agreed.

Consideration of the clerks request for the purchase of a desktop PC for the new junior assistant clerk and a budget for the furniture and additional expenditure occurred in the office expansion: Cllr Poulter proposed up to £1000.00 for furniture which was seconded by Cllr Hine, put to a vote with 11 for and one against. Agreed. (Interim measure on computing arrangements agreed.)

Consideration of setting up an emergency flood response team within the village: Cllr E Bald detailed to set up an emergency group, to prepare to help out with emergency service and on site work. Cllr Poulter proposed and Cllr Cox seconded. Put to a vote with 11 for and one abstention. Agreed.

Consideration of modifying the access at Leadwell Meadows to assist with maintenance contracts: Cllr J Bald proposed that the clerk respond to the contractor and advise they are contractually obliged, Cllr Cox seconded. Agreed.

Report on the Orchard East meeting held at Girton College on the 17th February: There should be a focus to extend the community orchard and look at ways of producing similar orchards around the village. This was proposed by Cllr E Bald as well as a budget of £300.00, seconded by Cllr Kell and put to a vote with 11 for and one abstention. Agreed.

Cemetery report from the cemetery working group following the meeting of the 21st February: Clerking team to check the cemetery after a burial to work out who is doing the dumping of the soil. Community payback scheme to be contacted to rub down gates.

To consider LPC's contribution to the Scarecrow Festival: Cllr Potter proposed that the PC pay the full £78.00 printing cost of the flyers, this was seconded by Cllr Smith. Agreed.

Consideration of correspondence received: Mr Taylor regarding suggestions for property marking: This is a service offered by the police, Cllr Mannassi to advertise this in an article for the Linton News PC Matters page. Clerk to thank Mr Taylor for the suggestion.

Local Handyman Services regarding increase to his hourly rate payable from April 2018: Noted.

SCDC regarding discontinued housing surgeries: The decision was taken not to progress.

Cambridgeshire County Council regarding responsibility of the refilling of grit bins within the village: Noted.

Mr Hounsome request to extend boundary onto PC land: LPC own the land and do not provide permission for this to progress.

Mrs Younger regarding plaque at the Peace Garden at St Mary's Church: Agreed.

The Connections Bus Project regarding Youth Bus visits in the summer holidays: Cllr Poulter proposed that LPC opt for the full set of sessions as per last year, Cllr Hine seconded. Agreed.

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

LINTON PARISH COUNCIL
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