

**LINTON FLOWER
FESTIVAL
11TH - 13TH MAY
AT S^T MARY'S
CHURCH
ALL WELCOME**

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VILLAGE UNDER THREAT

JOHN Prescott the Deputy Prime Minister has decided that we need 18,000 new homes in our region. That is in addition to the 2,800 houses we are already committed to build each year until 2020. This makes a mockery of the planning process, it ignores the results of public enquires, ignores the rulings of the government's own inspectors and

ignores the principles of sustainable development.

Three options are under consideration:

a) To spread the developments in existing towns, mainly in Herts. and Essex.

b) To build two "small" towns either to the north or west of Cambridge or around Stansted.

c) To build a single large

town south of Cambridge, possibly at Gt. Abington with a new road between Linton and Gt. Dunmow.

If a town of this size, population of up to 50,000, came to Gt. Abington, Linton would be swamped. The area would be destroyed.

The proposal is nothing short of vandalism on a huge scale. To achieve what? The

road proposal makes it very clear that this town would be nothing other than a dormitory feeding workers south to Stansted and to London.

The District Council is joining with the City and the County Councils in opposing this arbitrary, ill-conceived and unsustainable proposal.

John Batchelor
892111

LINTON DIARY

To guarantee entry into this diary please ensure that your event is written into the diary in the Post Office.

Details of items in **bold type** may be found elsewhere in this edition

Also send an email with your event details to
diary@linton.info, or use the form on www.linton.info

Weekly: Whist Drive, 7.30pm, Mondays Social Centre
Weekly: Men's Keep Fit Club, 8pm, Mondays LVC
Weekly: WEA class, 10-11.45am, Tuesdays Social Centre
Weekly: Story Time, 2-2.30pm, Tuesdays Library
Weekly: Linton Radio Race Car Club, 6-10pm, Wednesdays S C
Weekly: IT Club, 7pm, Tuesdays Cathodeon Centre
Weekly: Linton Chess Club, 7.30pm, Tuesdays Social Centre
Weekly: Tots in Tow, 10-11.30am, Tuesdays Social Centre
Weekly: Rock Café, 1.30pm-3pm, Wednesdays SC
Weekly: Little Acorns, 10.00am-11.30am, Thursdays SC
Weekly: Carpet Bowls, 7.30pm, Thursdays Social Centre
Weekly: Bridge Club, 7pm, Fridays Cathodeon Centre

WALKING FOR OTHERS

THE 37th Oxfam Walk which took place on Sunday, 16th May was a spectacular success. 1,200 people including many families set off from Chilford Hall in the spring sunshine on seven, 14, and 21 mile routes fortified by Fair Trade chocolate and water generously donated by The Co-operative Group. Stagecoach drivers gave up their Sunday to provide an all-day free bus service to Chilford Hall. Refreshment teams, marshals and stewards encouraged walkers around the routes. The British Red Cross, Raynet and Special Police ensured that the event ran safely. Marvin the Moose, Cambridge United's famous mascot, encouraged walkers on their way.

All the volunteers were tak-

ing part in the Oxfam Walk with the same aim - to raise £50,000 for Oxfam's emergency relief work around the world during humanitarian crises.

Among the walkers was Honorary Vice President CND, Bruce Kent widely known for his campaigning on behalf of nuclear disarmament who said "I'm very glad to be able to play a small part in helping to relieve the sufferings of innocent victims of disasters, especially the man-made disaster of war."

Having completed their routes, walkers were entertained by tunes played by the Linton Jazz Band while children played parachute games organised by the Woodcraft Folk. For the footsore, a sports



Your own web editor and friends enjoying the outing

Picture by Mike Crofts

masseur was on hand to massage weary limbs.

And a last word from Marvin the Moose, "See you at next year's walk which will be

on 15th May 2005!"

If you would like to help with next year's walk please phone:

Cecilia Hollick 264410

RAIN DOESN'T STOP PLAY



Gardening stalwarts brave the rain for their plants

Picture by Ron Pitkin

THE sun didn't shine on us this year but the stalwarts still turned up to the plant sale and we made a good sum towards the cost of staging the annual show. Our thanks to all who supported the club in the drizzle and went indoors to enjoy coffee and biscuits, none of which would be possible without the generosity of Susan and John Anderson who share their house, garage and garden for the occasion.

At last month's meeting the

talk was of herbs and their uses with an excellent demonstration of propagation by division and the taking of cuttings, which showed that they don't have to be treated with kid gloves. The two speakers, John Webster the businessman and Tony Bassett the hands-on man (known as Herbie!) put across their enthusiasm for the growing and selling of herbs with slides including some less familiar species and a large selection of the real thing on

display.

The benefit of herbs was known in Roman times when viper's bugloss was used to cure snakebite and the folklore has been handed down over the years. Now, following a downturn after the second world war when tinned and convenience foods became popular there has been a resurgence of interest in the use of herbs, probably aided by the television chefs.

That was the last meeting of the season but there is a planned outing to Peckover House and Elgood's Brewery on Wednesday 24th June for which a few more people are needed to make it viable. Will anyone interested in going please contact Bruce Conochie on 894460 by 10th June.

We hope there will be a record number of entries at the Show on 24th July and we look forward to welcoming lots of members and visitors to see the efforts of some very talented people. Schedules are available from Susan Anderson on 891623.

Gloria Fidler 891800

WHY IS TRACEY SMILING?



SEE PAGE 5

CELEBRATING WITH S^T MARY'S

LINTON Flower Festival's theme this year is "When the saints go marching in", and the floral displays are already planned.

The celebrations will take place over the entire weekend at the Church and Infants' School and begin with a barbecue on Friday night; family fun and dancing aided by a licensed bar.

On Saturday, the festival itself starts at 10am. The church will be decorated with fantastic floral arrangements, which take hours to create and attract visitors from all over the region. There will be many craft stalls, exotic plants, cakes,

jewellery, bric-a-brac, refreshments and meals.

Outside are many more attractions, several new for this year. There will be a bouncy castle for the children, a fire engine to "drive", renowned Linton hot dogs and hamburgers, treasure detecting etc., etc. See if you can score a goal against one of the region's top goalkeepers and this year we reinstate our old favourite on Saturday afternoon - the tug of war between the Dog & Duck, the Crown, the Waggon & Horses and the Fire Service. Come and support your team - there will be a beer tent.

If that has not exhausted you

then watch the death defying teddy bear leap from the church tower (bring your teddy along - first aid provided). To relax, listen to the Friday Folk, then hear a talk in the church by Garth Collard on previous flower festivals.

On Sunday the stalls and flowers will still be there and in the afternoon, listen to a concert given by the pupils of the village college in the church. If you still have any energy left, watch the white knuckle duck race along the river.

Finish off a wonderful weekend with evensong in the church.

Michael Holden
99 High Street

RELIEF COMMUNITY WARDEN



The Community Warden visits older people living in a group of villages towards the South-Eastern area of South Cambridgeshire

Age Concern Cambridgeshire are currently looking for a Relief Warden to cover planned annual leave and unexpected sickness periods.

if you are interested in this position and would like to discuss it further, please contact Lynne Byrne, services Manager at County Office in Chatteris. Tel: 01354-696650

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FROM WHERE I'M SITTING

by TONY SMITH

FOR me work, in the true meaning of the word, is sadly not an option any more. My days are filled with thinking about what I will do tomorrow. Tomorrow, I will feel better. It is what enables me to get up in the morning.

This month I would like to share the following with you. It is attributed to Gregg Langill and Jon Antallmi and adapted from their story 'The Hospital Window'.

Two men, both seriously ill, occupied the same hospital ward. One man was allowed to sit up in his bed for an hour each afternoon, his bed next to the room's only window. The other man had to spend all his time on his back. They talked for hours on end. They spoke of wives and families, their homes, jobs, where they had gone on holiday. Every afternoon when the man in the bed by the window could sit up, he would pass the time by describing to his room-mate the things he could see outside the window. The man in the other bed began to live for those one hour periods where his world would be broadened by the activity and colour of the world outside.

The window overlooked a park and lake. Ducks and swans played on the water while children sailed model boats. As the man by the window described all this in exquisite detail, the man on the other side of the room would close his eyes and imagine the picturesque scenes.

One morning, a nurse arrived to bring water for their baths to find the man by the window had died peacefully in his sleep. As soon as it seemed appropriate, the other man asked the nurse if he could be moved next to the window, and after making sure he was comfortable she left. Slowly, painfully, he propped himself up on one elbow to take his first look at the real world outside.

He strained to turn slowly to look out of the window beside the bed. It faced a blank wall. The man asked the nurse what could have compelled his friend to describe such wonderful things outside this window. The nurse replied that the man was blind and could not even see the wall. She said, "Perhaps he just wanted to encourage you."

The moral of this story? There is tremendous happiness in making others happy, despite our own situations.

Shared grief is half the sorrow, but happiness when shared, is doubled.

If you want to feel rich, just count all the things you have that money can't buy.

Today is a gift, that's why it is called the Present.

Around 16th May was really beautiful, wasn't it? (He says, without blowing a single trumpet). Well, the signs are that things are going to be OK for the month ahead. Not quite so hot, but on the whole, mostly dry and pleasant. A little cloud may drift down at times from the north but, on the whole it is looking mostly dry. So, please enjoy the coming month, and remember that if you have music in your garden, you won't be the only ones listening to it. Your neighbours may not like the 'popular beat combos' that you do!

Take care, and I'll see you all next month.

THE PORTRAIT



Julian turned the tables on Camera Club members (Jonny Mascal centre front)

WHAT'S the difference between a snap of your favourite person and a portrait worthy of hanging on your wall? That was what Linton's professional photographer, Julian Edwards set about teaching camera club members at their May meeting. He set up a 'studio' at the social centre, demonstrated the art of portrait photography and then helped members to produce many excellent photographs.

Our two subjects - beefy hunk Jonny Mascal and Tracey Wilson from the Linton News - suffered for our art as Julian, who is widely known for his 'Julian's Photography' business, got them into poses which produced meaningful portraits.

"Don't be afraid to call out!" he urged members as they tried their skills.

"Get their attention. Get them looking at you."

Julian's son, Jason, is the computer expert in the team and brought along some

Photograph: Julian's Photography inspirationally beautiful wedding photographs created with Photoshop image software. They were black and white with just small tasteful sections in colour. One member remarked that the pictures were so good he thought it might be worth getting married!

After a tough morning of racing around the social centre instructing and helping, Julian's tour de force was to get the camera club in one place, looking in the same direction, smiling and still enough for a group photograph... it's amazing what a real pro can do.

The next club meeting will be a visit to the Mole Hall Wildlife Park at Widdington, meeting at 10am at the social centre on Sunday 13th June. New members are always welcome; information from John Keeble 894948 or jkeeb@clara.net or see our website www.camclub.info

John Keeble and Roger Lapwood

WALKING WITH FRIENDS

TWENTY six Friends of S' Mary's completed the walk from Linton to Hadstock on a splendid spring afternoon in late April. Patricia Croxton-Smith met us at S' Botolph's church and explained how the tomb of the saint had been excavated during an archaeological survey and that the main door had been dated to Viking times, now believed to be the oldest working church door in the country. Altogether £60 was raised for the Friends, and the afternoon was enjoyed by

all who took part.

The next walk begins at 2.30pm on Sunday 27th June from the car park of Chilford hall where there will be the opportunity to take lunch or tea. The route will explore the roman road and a short presentation on its history and recent renovation will be given. After a distance of about five miles we will return to Chilford Hall by 5pm. A voluntary donation is suggested in support of the Friends. Further details from me: John Wintle 893410

AN ENJOYABLE TIME

A COOL damp evening hadn't encouraged many members to attend what proved to be a lively meeting. President Tricia Lewis welcomed everyone and then the minutes of the AGM 2003 were read, as these had been inadvertently missed at the AGM last month. Posies were given to those with a birthday in May. A report was read by Clare Neville of the recent Spring Council meeting held in Cambridge and an account given by a member attending Denman College, one of 15 members who spent a week there recently. This had been very much enjoyed by all and Joan Pearmain was warmly thanked for arranging it. The new Denman College programme is now available for members. Orders for WI diaries must be in next month.

M^{iss} M Clark and M^{rs} M Blackman were commended for their acting in a play performed by the Federation Players. Entitled 'Cards, Cups and

Crystal Balls' it was performed at various venues including the Mumford Theatre.

Three members had attended the resolution meeting in Cambridge and gave arguments for and against the three resolutions. They answered questions and this resulted in one resolution being carried, one left to the delegates' discretion and a majority of abstentions on the third.

A ploughmans lunch is to be held on 22nd June at the home of June Bunn, one of several fund raising activities planned.

Finally, groups of four were arranged at tables for an American quiz, which resulted in lots of laughter and some rather dubious adding up! The president suggested perhaps we should hold a maths course next!

At the July meeting Fran Saltmarsh will be speaking on the six wives of King Henry VII. Please come and enjoy a pleasant evening among friends

Clare Neville

NEWS AND VIEWS OF NEPAL

IT'S been a busy time for Hildersham WI. On Monday 19th April seven members attended the Cambridge Federation WI Annual Council Meeting. After listening to the business we were amusingly entertained by meteorologist Ian McCaskill who worked for no less than 49 years with the BBC as their senior 'weather man'.

On Tuesday 20th April eleven members met at the village hall and welcomed M^{rs} Alison Ross who spoke about her times in Nepal. Whilst we viewed her magnificent slides she enthusiastically enlightened us about the hardship of life in Nepal, that it was the

fourth poorest country in the world as they have no natural resources and yet it enjoys the most majestic scenery with amazing fauna and flora. Delicious refreshments were provided by M^{rs} Beardmore and M^{rs} Davies.

On Wednesday 21st April our president M^{rs} Arkwright and M^{rs} Crampin attended the meeting to discuss the WI resolutions for 2004, 'Trafficking of Women and Children', 'The growing of GM crops in the UK' and 'Air Ambulance Service Funding'.

At the May meeting M^{rs} B Lowry spoke about 'Station X and the Enigma Machine'.

Gillian Anderson

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READERS WRITE

Post and email addresses and deadline for letters on page 6
Please note: All letters for publication must be supplied with a full name and address to enable us to check their authenticity. Any letters without these details will not be printed.

CEMETERY VANDALISM

Dear Editor
Sometime on either 22nd or 23rd April the headstone on Martin Salmon's grave was broken from its mount and pushed over onto its back. It was a great shock to the family to discover this latest damage to the grave; it is the third time this particular grave has suffered from vandalism in one form or another.

It would seem that once again the cemetery is being used as a meeting area. Bearing in mind the publicity following the incident where a child was hurt, we would have thought at least parents may have realised that the cemetery is not the place for recreational activities.

Having got over the initial shock of discovering the damaged headstone, two local firms were contacted and gave immediate assistance in re-cutting the stone. This was done with great care and efficiency, for which the family are most deeply grateful.
M^r & M^{rs} Salmon
5 Tower View



WANTED: MORE TODDLERS

HADSTOCK toddler group is looking for new members. We are a small and friendly group who meet every Tuesday in term time from 2pm to 4pm at Hadstock Village Hall (next to the church). All welcome. For more details contact
Kay Elston 891298 or
Isabel Fish 890924

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OUR THANKS

Dear Editor
Thank you to everyone who donated or collected for Save The Children's house to house collection. Linton and area collected £1929.53.
Judith White
The Guildhall, Church Lane.

Dear Editor
The Linton patchwork group would like to thank everybody who supported the MAGPAS coffee morning at the Linton Manor. £312.50 was raised, which brought the grand total raised so far to £1,600.

The quilt and other prizes will be raffled at a cheese and wine evening to be held at 6pm on Sunday 27th June at 21 Woodhall Lane, Balsham. Tickets are available from Carol Todd on 892979 or Janette Sealy on 890024.

We would dearly like to reach the £2,000 mark so please come along and support us.
Carol Todd
29 Hollybush Way

Dear Editor
Linton Fire Service would like to thank everyone who turned up to support their recent fund raiser despite the weather. £300 was raised and Sarah Wright of Linton won 'guess the weight of the cake'. We would also like to thank the Co-op, the Dog and Duck, Boyz 2 Men and everyone else for their donations.

Dee M Collins
The Grove

CANCELLED CONCERT

THE open-air concert 'Music and the Movies' planned for Saturday 26th June at Granta Park on has been cancelled owing to a funding application rejection. The organisers apologise for any inconvenience caused.

Gillian Perkins

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DO I HEAR A HUNDRED?

'NINETY pounds I'm bid, do I hear ninety-five? Thank you Sir, ninety-five I'm bid, do I hear a hundred?' There was silence in the hall and nobody dared lift a finger as head teacher Rod Halls wielded the gavel, turning into an auctioneer for the day as the school hall became a saleroom to raise money for the Linton Heights Junior School.

The occasion was the auction of promises, with more than 60 items or 'promises' generously donated by individuals and businesses. Every item was sold on the day, raising over £2,000 for new equipment. The biggest excitement occurred when bidding for two of the pledges went over the £100 mark. One was a tour of the Houses of Parliament, donated by James Paice MP; the other a flight from Duxford in a Boeing Stearman biplane, offered by David Barrell as reported in the *Linton News* last month.

Many of those present had never been to an auction before and the atmosphere was electric.

ALL THE FUN OF THE FAIR

FACE painting, bouncy castles and a football tournament are just some of the attractions at the annual Linton Heights Summer Fair, to be held at the Junior School, Wheatsheaf Way, between 5 and 9pm on Friday 2nd July.

This is the school's biggest fundraising event of the year and as usual the children will be doing their bit, helping to design and run class stalls. At the time of writing, these are still being planned but they might range from hair-braiding to beat-the-goalie and mini-

Children tried to outbid each other for the autographs of England rugby stars, nervously seeking approval from parents before raising the threshold to £30 or more. Adults got carried away as they bid ever higher sums for everything from a signed Cambridge United football to a day at the BBC. A sticky chocolate cake, made by deputy head Lucy Bryant, went for £17.50, and the dinner from Tarts with Tops On, prepared and served by 'three lovely ladies' in the privacy of your own home, was snapped up for a cool £45. Although the idea was to raise funds, there were still some bargains to be had. Your correspondent managed to buy two tickets to see *Othello* at Cambridge Arts Theatre for the sum of just £9.

It was an enjoyable and highly successful event which will bring long-term benefits to the school. The Friends of Linton Heights would like to thank all those who supported the auction in any way, whether by donating pledges, making bids or coming along on the day to help.
Tony Kelly

golf to lucky dips, all at pocket money prices. There will also be a tombola stall, a wine game for the grown-ups and a raffle with some excellent prizes. Entertainment will be provided by the Haverhill drum majorettes, and there will be a taekwondo demonstration and dog agility displays.

As always, there will be a barbecue, bar and cake stall with coffee, tea and soft drinks. It should be a fun evening with something for all the family so put the date in your diary now!
Tony Kelly

ON YOUR DOORSTEP

CAN you no longer get to a library because of mobility problems or ill health? If so, The Doorstep Service might be the answer!

'The Doorstep Service' is run by Cambridgeshire Libraries and Information Service in partnership with volunteer Library Visitors. If you are interested in having books or talking books delivered to you in your own home, contact your local area coordinator (details below). She will visit you to discuss your needs and try to find a suitable library visitor who will visit you once a month with the books that have been chosen for you.

Have you a few hours to spare each month? Do you get on with people? Would you like to share your love of books with someone who can't get to a library? If so, we would like to hear from you.

Current users of the service and volunteers have reported that many good friendships have been made along the way! If you would like to find out more about The Doorstep Service and what is available, call me:
Hilary Firth 718358

K-CLUB WINNERS

THE winners of the May K-Club monthly draw:

- 1st prize (£50)
Brian Manley (No. 170)
- 2nd prize (£25)
Peter Mudge (No.259)
- 3rd prize (£10)
Joan Argent (No. 142)

GONE FISHING

THE annual fishing match for the Dog & Duck trophy will take place at Little Walden on Sunday, 4th July.

There are still a few vacancies left. Full details and booking forms are available from:
The Dog & Duck



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GETTING WET FOR FUN



Some of the children playing with the water tray (donated by Mr McGinty)

TWO recent fundraising events have raised over £360 for Linton Granta Playgroup.

An Easter nursery rhyme treasure trail raised nearly £200. A big thank you to all the shops, and one pub in Linton High Street who took part.

A recent cake sale in Saffron Walden raised £160 and despite appalling weather conditions every cake was sold! All monies raised will go towards equipment for the playgroup and toddlers.

The group will now be running a toy library at the Monday session. Toys from the toddler group can be borrowed for up to a week. Based in the Youth centre at the Village College, the Toddler groups run on Mondays and Tuesdays from 10-11.30am for 0-3 years and a more structured session on Thursdays from 10-11.30am for 18 months-3

years. A small charge includes a drink, a biscuit and a very warm welcome!

The annual 'Midsummer Madness' evening fundraising event on behalf of Linton Granta Playgroup and Toddlers and Chestnuts Playgroup will take place this year from 8-11.30pm on Saturday 26th June at the Heights School and will include dinner, a bar, disco, fun casino and much more. Tickets are available from both playgroups or tel: 891071.

The Playgroup would like to thank Elizabeth McGinty of Linton for her generous donation to the playgroup of a wooden climbing frame, water tray, ironing board, books and lots of other toys and equipment.

We are still looking for a wardrobe or filing cabinet for storing toys and equipment. If anyone can help please contact me: Tanya Carter 892376.

USE YOUR VOTE ON 10TH JUNE

ELECTION day is 10th June for the District Council and the European Parliament. Because of boundary changes, for the first time all 57 District Council seats will be contested, not the usual third.

Bartlow will be joining Hildersham and Linton to form the new expanded ward. Two councillors will still represent you but this time both will be up for election so you will have two votes. Balsham joins with the Camps and becomes a two-member ward, so two votes again, and Hinxtun is added to the Abingtons but remains a one-member ward.

The European Parliamentary election is decided on a party list basis covering the whole of the Eastern Region. Seven MEPs need to be elected, but you only have one vote. That vote you give to your preferred party or to a named independent; in either case you still only have one vote. The percentage of total vote is then calculated for each party and that percentage determines how many of that party's list is elected.

Please use your vote. This year more than any other your vote will count and make a difference. At district level this is the one opportunity, with all seats contested, to change the political make-up of the council. At the regional level the total number of votes cast for each party will be used to establish the proportional representation to the increasingly important regional bodies.

If there is any doubt that you will be able to vote on 10th June please get a postal vote. All you have to do is ask. To register for postal or proxy votes phone South Cambridgeshire District Council on 08450 450 500.

Important dates to note: Last day for applying for a new postal or proxy vote is 3rd June. Polling day 10th June.

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LINTON'S BOOZY PAST

THE history of Linton's many old inns, pubs, beer and ale houses was described in detail by Garth Collard with the help of slides showing the old and the new. Of the very many village pubs and inns in the early 1900's Linton had the most at 13. Nationally there was one such building per 230 people, Linton had one per 158!

Starting at the Green Hill with its own maltings, this was a very important inn as it was on the then main road to Saffron Walden. Immediately opposite was The White Hart, which extended to the middle of the present road – thus when motorisation started and the vehicles were unable to manoeuvre the corner into the High Street, it was demolished although by then it was very dilapidated.

Into the High Street, there was a brewery next to the Crown, a coaching inn, further along there were three more pubs before Market Lane, the New Unicorn, Racehorse and Green Man. Two more were in Market Lane, The George and Dragon and The Sign of the Gate. Back in the High Street, the original Crown became the Griffin Inn and opposite on the corner of Horn Lane was the very large coaching Inn, The Red Lion. There were the Chequers (in Horn Lane) and Bull House (Black Bull Inn) with a large maltings at the back. Opposite was another

Chequers and then no buildings until the Dog and Duck. The Black Eyed Suzie was in Symonds Lane, and then the Swan (White Swan). Just past and opposite Coles Lane was The Axe and Saw and the vicarage was a brewery.

Alos The Bell Inn, a solid Tudor building, and opposite was the Tally Ho with next to it a beer house. Further along was The Woolpack and then The Marlborough (which became The Ship) with the largest maltings in Linton. In Green Lane was The Bottle Inn. The Princess of Wales has been rebuilt in front of the very old original. On the corner of Granta Vale was The Dolphin Inn, which moved further along Bartlow Road, opposite which was The Coach and Horses and another Black Eyed Suzie. The last building that had been a public house, further along Bartlow Road, was The Wheat-sheaf.

These premises obviously were not all existing at the same time; many had been converted to houses or demolished during the years. It was a very complex and interesting account of their history for which Pat Genochio warmly thanked Garth and reminded us that the next meeting (after the outing to Gressinghall on 30th June) will be the AGM on 21st September, with a talk and wine and nibbles – so all will be welcomed. Joan Pearman

COME ON SOME ACE TRIPS

THE Linton Activities and Care for the Elderly will be having a trip to S' Ives on Monday 7th June. The coach (with wheelchair access) will be at the Social Centre at 10am, to leave at 10.30.

Why are we going on a Monday? It is Market Day therefore a variety of stalls with fresh produce and plants to buy, as well as the shops and sights of historic S' Ives to see. There are plenty of places to visit and many places to have lunch, including a carvery at The Dolphin and many interesting pubs.

Two further events are in the pipeline. The first will be

another of our popular soup-and-roll lunches with a speaker on Friday 16th July at the social centre 12 noon for 12.30pm and on Wednesday 18th August we will be taking a two hour river cruise from Cambridge on the 'Georgina'. The coach will be at the Social Centre at 1.30 for a 2.00pm start, and we shall be cruising between 4 and 6pm. Tea will be served on board. This event will be subsidised by ACE but there will be a charge.

To book any of these events, or arrange a lift, please let Gill or Dawn know in good time on 891001. Janet Crofts 893619

Donnelly and Morrice

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FRIENDS OF LVC

THE Colour and Lingerie evening which we held in March was a great success with many people turning up on spec. We were all very cosy in the Chilford room, and quite warm! Thank you to all that came.

Also in March we sold refreshments at the half marathon. Many runners of all ages took part and seemed to take no time at all in getting round the course. Three people we spoke to, aged sixty plus were in training for the London marathon!

The numbers club winners since October were:

Nov. 03	Julia Martin	£61
Dec. 03	Julia Bianchi	£61
Jan.	Gail Thacker	£60
Feb.	Jeremy Powell	£59
Mar.	Sue Smith	£59
Apr.	Alan Parks	£59

After much discussion it was decided to cancel the social evening on 15th May through lack of interest. Thank you to those who applied for tickets and apologies for any disappointment caused.

On the first Saturday of every month the friends sell refreshments at the farmers' market. At present we are short of volunteers and would ask if you could spare up to three hours on a Saturday morning now and again. We are able to manage comfortably with three people and at present have a rota involving seven. If you feel you can help and would like to be placed on the helpers' list, please ring Sue on 01440 762911. It is also an opportunity to see the market which is well worth a visit.

Don't forget the family quiz night at 7 for 7.30pm on 12th June. There will be a fish/chicken and chips supper with refreshments from our bar. Tickets are available for adults and children (year six upward). This is usually a very popular event with a wide range of questions. We look forward to seeing you there. Forms can be obtained from the College or call: Sue 01799 584522 or Jane 01799 584264

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TEA AT TOSCA AND MORE

IT is nearly a year since Helen and Brian Bonney undertook the task of raising funds for Diabetes UK.

Helen has type 2 diabetes and knows that it is no respecter of age. Many children are now getting type 2, which is usually associated with late onset diabetes linked to diet. We are particularly lucky in Linton with marvellous diabetes care at the Health Centre and a good gym at the Village College.

Scientists are very much closer to a cure for Type 1 diabetes. Wouldn't it be wonderful to see that cure in our lifetime?"

You can help by joining us or supporting us in our fundraising events. There will be Elizabethan music and tea in the garden of the 17th century 'Tosca Cottage' at 28 Horseheath Road from 2-6pm on Sunday 6th June, including

music played by members of Cambridge String Players, paintings for sale, plant sale and much more. Tudor dress optional but a prize if you dare! Regret no dogs.

From 11am-4pm on Sunday 20th June you can take part in a sponsored walk in Wandlebury, or take part anyway and just give a donation. Last year's walk raised a fantastic £4,000.

Finally Brian has undertaken to trek up Mount Kilimanjaro in September. Perhaps you would like to sponsor him or give a donation. He is paying the cost of the trip himself as he has always wanted to go there, so all donations will go directly to Diabetes UK.

For more information on all events and/or sponsor forms for the walk please contact me: Helen on 894887 or email helebrian@btinternet.com.

LOCAL HISTORY TOUR

THE Cambridgeshire Local History Society invites you to accompany them on an evening tour of Barnwell Leper Priory and Stourbridge Fair led by

Honor Ridout and Barry Pearce. Meeting at the Leper Chapel on Newmarket Road at 7pm on Thursday 17th June. All enquiries to: Michael Farrar 840947

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A GREAT TIME WAS HAD BY ALL



Some of the visitors pose for a group photo with their fans

ON 23rd May I attended a football match. Doesn't sound unusual, but anyone who knows me knows a dedicated avoider of sports. But this was no ordinary match; it was the very first Pro-Celebrity match organised by the Aztecs Football Team.

The weather was just perfect and the day couldn't have gone better. Several players from the opposing team, Arsenal ex-professional & Celebrity XI, said the welcome and hospitality from the Linton villagers was excellent.

The manager of the Arsenal team, Bill Graves, has a dedicated pool of players on whom he calls for these charity matches. The day's line-up was as follows: Brain Hornsby (capt.) (ex-Arsenal) Danny O'Shea (ex-Arsenal), Terry Marsh (ex-World Champion boxer), Frank Thompson (Fever Pitch), Craig Lewis (Arsenal staff), Micky Nunn (ex-semi-pro player), Jason Rush (actor-Eastenders), Ian Ferguson (ex-semi-pro player), Patrick Robinson (actor-Casualty), John Alford (Actor-London's Burning), Giles Anderson (actor-Grease), Tony Murtagh (ex-Arsenal),

Lee Ryan, Lee Robinson, Chris Whyte and Frank Edwards. All the players happily accommodated the many requests for photographs and autographs from their fans.

The Aztecs' Team consisted of Dusty Saunders (Manager), Rob Belsom, Andy Jones, Roger Hickford, Tim Roke, Mark Gooden, Kevin Carter, Geoff Smithson, Dave Lockwood, Paul Croucher,



M' Percy Parrot in action

Sean Johnson, Martin Palmer, Vince Howard, Neil Gardener, Guy Ennew, John Orriss, David Seacombe, Steve Foulds and Rob Burleigh. These men have only played a few matches together as a team, so they put up a good fight against so many ex-professional players.

The match was delayed due to some visitors having travel problems, but there were side-shows to keep the spectators amused. Ryan Greenwood entertained us with his excellent disco and there was a display by Millennium Stars (majorettes from Haverhill). Once the match kicked off, the goals came thick and fast, with Giles Anderson scoring twice in the first 15 minutes, Terry Marsh and Tony Murtagh then scored a goal each giving a half-time score of 4-0 to the visitors



Jason Rush with one very happy fan

There followed a 30 minute break with an exhibition match played by Aztec under 11's, which ended in a 0-0 draw.

Back to the main game, and the first to score in the second half was Aztecs' Rob Belsom quickly followed by a goal from Arsenal (John Alford). Paul Crocher then scored for Aztecs.

In order to make the game more fair, the Aztecs' mascot, M' Percy Parrot (David Dew)



Patrick Robinson with Melanie Belsom

joined in and scored a goal one minute later. In the closing stages John Alford scored a goal for the visitors quickly answered by M' Parrot again. Final score 7-4 to Arsenal but the result didn't really matter as the winners were the charities who will benefit from the proceeds.

Dusty Saunders nominated Ward C3 at Addenbrooke's to be beneficiary of the day. The £125 earned by Rob Belsom was matched by the Aztecs fund so Addenbrookes will be receiving a cheque for £250. A rough estimate was that at least £4,000 was made, 30% of which will be given back to the Arsenal side for their own charities.

After the match, once the Aztec players had been presented with medals, and the Arsenal players received pennants, there was a reception for all the players and those who helped to make the day a suc-



cess, with catering organised by Mandy Clarke. Man of the match was Tony Murtagh, who received a bottle of champagne.

A pat on the back must go to Peter Belsom, who oversaw the organisation. Thanks also to City of Cambridge S' John's Ambulance (who luckily were not needed for anything major), and the ATC who oversaw the car parking.

Peter would like a special thank you to go to the local sponsors involved.

Tom Watt (Eastenders) wrote in the programme on behalf of the Arsenal team, and said that it would be a funny old game (funny players, old players and every one of them game) and he was right. I went to a football match, and really enjoyed myself. I hope everyone else did too and that this becomes a regular event.

Got to go, *Casualty* has just started - shame that nice Patrick Robinson isn't still in it. I got a cuddle from him this afternoon!

Tracey Wilson LNT



Patrick again - this popular player making Tracey's day

There are many more photographs of this event and others on the Linton News Website.

Also the answers to the quiz which was sold in aid of the 'Goat 4 it' project.

INTRODUCING GOAT 4 IT

ON Sunday 9th May, 85 children and young people from all four Linton churches met together to discover how for just £12 Christian Aid could buy a goat in a third world country to loan to a poor family.

The Goat 4 It project works like this: A goat is loaned to a family. When the goat has babies, one of the kids is given back to Christian Aid's partner organisation who are then able to loan this goat to another family... And so on!

It is a simple idea that really makes a difference as the family can use the goat's milk as food or to supplement the family's income, allowing children

to go to school.

The young people then produced a quiz to sell in aid of the project, while the younger children made goat collecting boxes which they have been filling with 5ps. They have earned their 5ps by doing jobs around the house, a thing that most third world children have to do every day - before and after walking a few miles to school! They must have very little time to play!

We meet at a Churches Together "Children Together" several times a year - watch for news of the next session.

Sarah Thorne
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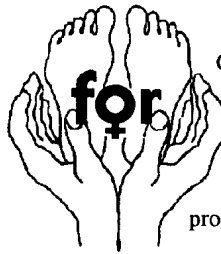
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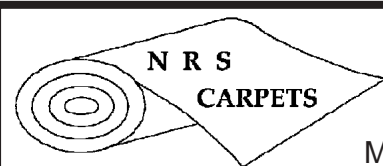
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THE BUSH TELEGRAPH

CHANGE is almost always uncomfortable even when you work in a service like education where it is more or less constant. As many of you know we *have* been changing things at the College and we are about to embark on a very ambitious programme of further change over the coming few years. It seems appropriate to keep readers of the Linton News up to date with all these developments.

Let's deal with specialist school status and what that means first. We became a specialist Business and Enterprise College in September 2003 and this has brought some much needed investment, particularly in the area of Information and Communication Technology – or computers and all the bits that go with them. Ofsted picked this up as an area for improvement when they came in November. By September we will have class sets of laptops, a wireless network and more interactive whiteboards and data projectors. We have also appointed a curriculum ICT adviser who is currently upgrading our website to provide everything that pupils, parents and members of the community need to stay in touch with us. We have also built a new business studies centre and installed computer operated manufacturing equipment. Interest in our business and engineering courses has been very encouraging and we see the new specialism as a great enrichment of our whole curriculum.

We are hoping to begin the major building programme over the summer and this will involve the construction of the all weather football pitch and tennis courts, the refurbishment of the sports centre changing rooms and the extension to the fitness suite. At the same time work on the special school should begin. As a precursor to all this, an archaeological survey has been undertaken and some evidence of a pre-Roman field system found. All finds have now been recorded and the trenches re-filled.

Over the past few weeks a number of public meetings have been held about the developments on the LVC site. Although very real concerns continue about the A1307, I am pleased to say most comments have been very supportive. We will continue to work hard to achieve the best possible solution to managing the traffic issue. Related to this is the consultation that has recently taken place with parents regarding the timing of the school day.

Because the new special school has to end its day after LVC (in order to minimise the impact of vehicles collecting the children) we have an opportunity to move the day forward. There are sound educational reasons for an earlier start and finish with the majority of lesson taking place in the morning. The proposed 8.30am start and 15.05pm finish will inevitably present some difficulties for some families, but again I am pleased to say the vast majority of those who responded to our consultation saw the change as a positive one. These changes will have an impact on all those with connections to the College and it will be very important for all of us to continue to work together over the coming months to provide our children and our community with the best possible outcome.

Clive Bush, Principal

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

S/0793/04/F M^r & M^s J C Hewett, **Railway End, 44 The Grip, Linton**, Two dormer windows.

S/0837/04/LB M^r A D C Boddington & M^{iss} N Harris, **84 High Street, Linton**. External alterations.

S/0866/04/F Hereward Housing, **Land at Flaxfields, Linton**. Construction of parking area.

S/0904/04/LB M^r A D C Boddington & M^{iss} N Harris, **84 High Street, Linton**. Replacement of pantiles (B&C) on lower roof slopes with reclaimed Welsh slate.

S/0977/04/F M^r & M^s D Dew, **20 Symonds Lane, Linton**. Extension.

S/1059/04/F South Cambs District Council, **29 Balsham Road, Linton**. Vehicular access.

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THE STONE CEREMONY

IT is predicted that between now and 3rd July 2004, a stone of many tons will land on the corner of Chalklands!

Fear not, for this will be no celestial body, meteorite or harbinger of bad news. In fact quite the reverse! The lucky stone made of clipsham has been the catalyst for the now famous community spirit of Chalklands and Paynes Meadow.

It all began some years ago when the Residents' Association was formed and keen members raised money to enhance the estate. You will have noticed the hosts of daffodils, bushes and improvements.

Earlier concerns about vandalism have been unfounded, but not least assisted by local security cameras, neighbourhood watch and the keen eyes of PC Hall.

The stone will incorporate a carving commissioned by the Chalklands arts project group to include words of great wisdom, and will commemorate fifty years since the building of the original estate. The success of the Chalklands Arts Project is an example to us all, with residents giving unselfishly their support, skills, time and money for the benefit of all. South Cambridgeshire District Council have been a source of inspiration and the Parish Council have been there under the guidance of Enid Bald, like a rock!

The great unveiling will be at midday on Saturday 3rd July and amongst the residents celebrating will be local celebrities, artists and members of the council. Sponsors include The Dog & Duck, The Village Pharmacy, Gary Hall, Linton Paving Company, The Darryl Nantais Gallery and Sweet Talk News. On the day the college band will play and an arts and craft exhibition will be open in the community room. All the people of Linton are invited to attend this auspicious ceremony.

Darryl Nantais
Chalklands Residents' Association.

GETTING CRAFTY

A WELCOME addition to the Farmers' market (next one . 5th June) will be an area where the handiwork of local craftspeople will be available for sale.

Jan Lupton

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LINTON COUNTRY DIARY by Darryl Nantais

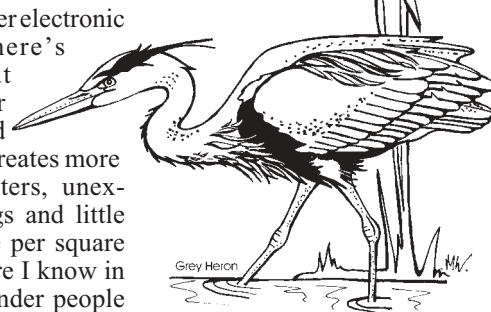
Illustrated by Maureen Williams

WHAT fun! Lazing in the scratchy long grass on summer days, gazing at the clouds to find wispy images which changed then disappeared forever! Well, that was when we were children, but it doesn't have to be! The Pocket Park is there for all to enjoy now!!

Did you notice the sudden transition? How leaves unfurled and flowers bloomed with almost unbelievable speed? This was followed by banks of clouds stacked like pyramids around Linton. The morning air was heavily charged, and when the storm finally broke that afternoon it popped the circuits of hundreds of modems and other electronic equipment. There's something about Linton, whether geologically based or otherwise that creates more inimitable characters, unexplained happenings and little wonders of nature per square mile than anywhere I know in the world. No wonder people are queuing up to live here!

It was almost midnight, the air thick with a thousand scents of new blossom and the stars twinkled above as light through pin-pricks of a black velvet curtain. A few miles from our venerable village I halted the car before a wretched bundle of bird, its wings with lost symmetry outstretched and his bright yellow beak gaping. Swaddling the squawking patient I brought him home for a night in the 'magic cage' as always without great expectations. I say magic because for almost two years the injured feathered inmates' survival rate after a spell in this rusty wire construction has been one hundred percent! Now I am sure this phenomena can and

will doubtlessly be explained away by all the budding scientists and statisticians of Linton. You see there's more to life than meets the bird's eye and not even hypno-psychotherapists or students of Shamanism would sway my taurean tendency from a flight of fantasy or trust in providence! All I know is; the birds got better! Yet, be assured that like all good mountaineers on a rock face, where possible, three limbs out of four touch terra-firma at any one time. A little chlorinated water on the lawn next day had teased up worms for my new found friend who struggled to hold and swallow



with his still gaping beak. I stroked his little head and he scuttled off behind the cow parsley, eventually emerging again to the temptation of a big fat juicy lobworm which I dangled on the end of a stick. That evening, well fed on sustenance rich, he perched proudly upon the tallest fence post. By very first light I had serious doubts of ever using the cage again! Magic, logic, providence or not, for even my very good neighbours had noticed the extremely early, loud and discordant bird song. It was as shrill and piercing as badly played top notes of a violin! Nevertheless, he was still alive and like all wide eyed birds; must rise early. By the way,

small eyed birds tend to rise later, feeding during and after the emergence of flies. Lucky Black, as we called him, eventually improved his timing and tuning, and whilst writing this month's diary he sings a pleasant, if not a little unusual song at around 5 am. He has also found a mate and together they are happily nesting by the cemetery.

Last night a group of Chalklands residents enthusiastically gathered on my forecourt as John the snake-man displayed another of his fascinating legless wonders! This impromptu show starred a Jungle carpet snake whose name defies logical labelling, for trees and not the jungle carpet are its natural habitat. This four foot long constrictor dazzled us in the evening light, winding its way around arms and tasting the air with forked tongue. John explained how the snake also has a line of heat sensors on its face. No fangs but rows of small teeth pointing inwards. Apparently, by unhinging its jaw it can swallow a whole rat, and that would be sufficient food for almost a month! Most striking were the colours and pattern on its skin, resembling a 1960's carpet design in shades of luminous green! Indiana Jones and the stuff of dreams is alive and well for the people of Linton.

Later that evening I spotted a grey heron gliding on reconnaissance over our village, seeking that unprotected pond. The attack will come early next morning on the vulnerable fish. Gracefully swooping into your garden the heron may stand perfectly still for a lengthy period before stabbing its prey with its long and rough beak. A wide-eyed exception to the rule!

THE UNWANTED TRAFFIC LIGHTS

"LIGHTS at the top of the High Street cannot be justified through our funding system." Mark Kemp advised Linton residents at a public meeting held on 21st April at Linton Village College to discuss building plans at the college.

M^r Kemp said traffic lights would be installed at a new entrance opposite The Libra Company and Crofton Engineering on the A1307 as part of the programme for building the special needs school and vil-

lage college expansion. It was pointed out that solving problems for the school is increasing problems for the village.

About 80 people from Linton were at the meeting at which the traffic lights were discussed. Many are concerned they would cause long tailbacks each morning and increase rat running through Linton. They were sceptical about assurances that traffic lights introduce a gap in stationary traffic, allowing vehicles to exit the

High Street. They supported the parish council's idea to move the entrance to the school further away and make a roundabout at the Camgrain area.

Although M^r Manley, education department, assured parishioners that their views would be taken into account, planning application is to be considered on 7th June.

There will be sufficient space on site for a swimming pool for village use.

Kate France 891402

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Parish Council Matters

LINTON FOOTPATHS IMPROVED? YOU CAN HELP DECIDE!



Current footpath with white line in background, along trees, showing possible diversion

ONE of the good things about working from home is that you can organise your writing time around the dog walking.

We all have our favourite walks around the village, and whether it is one of the walks from the booklet "Linton Walks" or just a quick circuit of the Recreation Ground, you are sure to find something of interest or someone to talk to – it is amazing what you see or find out in the course of a walk!

Public footpaths are defined and mapped so that they can be identified and used by walkers. They are not meant for riders and certainly not for those motorcyclists that are currently causing nuisance and danger by riding

on footpaths and pavements. Footpaths must be maintained, the grass cut and kept passable by the landowner. Linton is fortunate to have several concerned farmers who fulfil their duties, but the best way to keep the routes open is by frequent use. The recent Oxfam walk used our village footpaths – one was the footpath illustrating this article, making it so much busier than usual.

Many of the best walks follow public footpaths along the river, across fields or through woodland. Some footpaths are ancient, following routes used to reach places of work or homes that do not now exist, and no longer used except for the pleasure of walking and enjoying na-

ture. These age-old shortcuts often cross diagonally through fields rather than following the field edge, so access to hedgerows and their fruits is not easy and cultivation of the fields is hampered. It has been suggested that an unused path could be declassified and that some routes across fields could be re-aligned to link to other walks. In exceptional circumstances, it might be possible to gain extra ground to create links to other paths as part of the re-routing.

One of my favourite routes is through the churchyard across the footbridge and along the riverbank through Grip Meadow. The public footpath runs only from the Church footbridge to the Mill footbridge. The path extending to the Mill Ford is actually a permissive path; M^r Fairey

kindly allows us to walk there although it is not an official footpath. The official route stops at the Mill bridge to run diagonally across the field to the stile on the A1307, then resumes on the other side of the road heading toward the cottages on Long Lane. This might have been an important route at one time, but through the years I have noted that the path has taken longer to be compacted to a hard surface (it is always re-instated after cultivation, but trudging across newly ploughed land is hard work!) as fewer people use it.

It has been proposed that the

cessible to the less able walker and leads onto the delights of Pocket Park. It means that we can get at the blackberries in the hedge, too...

Routes of footpaths cannot be changed except after public consultation and a lengthy and expensive legal process. So, to start with, we seek your views on rationalising some paths. We are aware that new paths are being created and that some paths no longer meet the needs of walkers, so could we consider amending some, including that across the Grip Meadow? There is a similar situation where the foot-



Path to be widened with better surfacing?

diagonal path could be closed. In exchange, the path along the river would be widened and given a better, even surface. A new route would be created along the edges of the paddock, to link up to Mill Lane by the path into Leadwell Meadows. This would create a walk that is permanent, firm under foot all year (the current paths get mighty slippery in winter) ac-

path to Catley Park crosses a field; a route along the hedgerow would be created as the alternative route, with similar benefits

I must go now, Jasper has just prodded me with his paw – time for another walk!

Enid Bald
Chairman LPC

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



ROGER HICKFORD

I AM the newest member of the council. I was bored of being one of those "grumpy old men" who are only happy when they are complaining about something, but do nothing to rectify the situation. So I decided to stop moaning and start helping, and when a position became vacant on the Parish Council I thought that would be a great place to be, so I put myself forward and was lucky enough to be elected. I have no specific agenda or cause. I like to think I look at the various issues with common sense and an idea of Right and Wrong. I have come onto the Council at a very interesting time. I could write a page on the issue of the building of the SEN and the proposed road system, or indeed the traffic situation for the village as a whole. I, like nearly everyone else I speak to in the village, was already concerned by the traffic situation before this development. Let's hope common sense prevails here! When I joined, I had no idea what to expect. The main thing I have learnt in my short time on the PC is the number of different and varied issues in which the Council is actually involved. It is very rewarding to be part of the decision making process.

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MINUTES of Linton Parish Council from May, 2004.

There were 14 Councillors present with no members of the public.

C^{llr} Batchelor declared an interest under Item 302, as Chairman of Linton Action for Youth.

The minutes of the meeting held on 15th April, 2004 were approved and signed.

The Planning and Finance minutes were then considered. C^{llr} Potter noted the Finance Minutes that a contribution to the Aztecs of £250 in sponsorship of footballs and bouncy castles for their Funday on 23rd May had been recommended.



Aztecs Chairman & Coach
This recommendation was agreed unanimously by the meeting.

Reports from Co-ordinators followed with C^{llr} Clay having issued a written report for Open Spaces. There were no queries.

C^{llr} Kenyon reported that after football matches there was an excess of litter being left behind on the Recreation ground. The benches required a complete overhaul. It was agreed the Clerk should obtain quotations for the work.

C^{llr} Gee reported the removal of a ladder from the back boundary of the cemetery. It was not known who it belonged to but was now locked in Council premises. He further reported that a property in Chalklands bordering the cemetery had removed its rear

boundary and was using cemetery ground as part of their garden. This person was to be written to by the Clerk and given 28 days to rectify this matter.

The Rights of Way Co-ordinator, C^{llr} Rossiter had issued a confidential report. She reported that a meeting had taken place on 29th April between co-ordinators, CCC officers and a local landowner regarding local footpaths. There was to be an article in Parish Matters seeking public views on the proposals. The Chairman reported that FP No's 14 and 16 had now been cut and were wider, making walking them much safer and easier. Thanks were due to M^r Fairey.

C^{llr} Hammett reported that the recent Zurich inspection on the Venture Playground equipment which had resulted in an 'immediate attention' defect was being dealt with at this time.

C^{llr} Kenyon queried whether there were any cowslips in the Meadows at this time. C^{llr} Rossiter reported there were, as well as kingcups. She further reported that the Linton 3W's had been in the Pocket Park today digging out ditches. The Chairman passed on the Council's thanks for their efforts, very much appreciated! It was also reported that the first contractor grass cut had now been completed and the paths were good and wide.

With regard the Parish Plan C^{llr} Rossiter reported that this item should remain on the Agendas for the foreseeable future as there would be updates. One issue that had 'scored' highly in the Parish Plan was street lighting. Some time ago both C^{llr} Hammett and C^{llr} Rossiter had agreed to review the current provision. Time had never been found. So to address this matter, C^{llr} Rossiter had taken the street light list provided by the PC office and divided it up into smaller pieces with each councillor being given their own

'area'. She passed the smaller 'area lists' out and requested that councillor's check the lights on them and pass them back to the Clerk as soon as they could.

The payments due list was circulated discussed and agreed with Councillors Potter and Batchelor signing the cheques.

Councillors then considered the notes of the Public Meeting regarding proposals for Linton Village College. The Chairman reported that copies of the notes of the Public meeting and the subsequent final comments on the College planning applica-



The Village College and its planning application
tion had been circulated to all those who attended the meeting, both residents and County officers. She further reported that any and all further comments from councillors personally, or indeed any other residents, should be forwarded as a matter of urgency as the deadline for their receipt was 6th May. Discussion took place regarding the notes and the final comments already forwarded. C^{llr} Urwin noted that the Planning Committee had wished to query what provision there was for the surface water drainage of the site. This was of importance due to the substantial flooding problems in Stantons Lane already, due in no small part to the land drains from College site. This matter was discussed further and it was agreed that the Clerk should write to Hazel Belchamber, at CCC, with a copy to the architects, seeking answers. There was considerable discussion regarding a recent planning application for a small business locally, which had been given permission, but on the condition that a sizeable length of public footpath be provided by the small business con-

cerned. It was also noted that the original swimming pool application for lottery funding had to include monies for internal and external road alterations to accommodate the pool. It was queried why this was not also the case for the school? The question was asked what the recourse was if CCC gave themselves planning permission despite the objections. C^{llr} Gore reported there was none. C^{llr} Hammett then reported that as a member of the User Committee at the Sports Centre he had now been advised of a date for commencement. This was 6th September with the internal



road system being first, followed by the expansion of the Sports centre and the installation of the Astroturf almost simultaneously. The Clerk noted that the internal roadway was part of the Special Needs School planning application, which had not yet been given permission. The provision of pitches for the Aztecs was further discussed and it was noted that although it was now evident two pitches were available throughout the build, Aztecs had to seek their priority for these pitches immediately.

The correspondence list was then reviewed with the following items of particular note:-

The Crown Inn was holding its annual Wacky Races event

on Sunday 30th May. There was to be no Parish Council entry at this time!

The Little Hands Nursery Group were seeking a meeting with the PC. Discussion took place and it was agreed that C^{llr} Cornell would represent the Council. The Clerk to organise the meeting.

SCDC had forwarded details of the Local Development Framework (LDF). It was noted that these would replace the current Local Plans. The Clerk reported concern regarding one aspect of this report which stated that future consultation may have only one week response time. This was discussed and generally agreed as insufficient and considering the length of timetable regarding the setting up of LDF's, totally unnecessary.

Aztecs Junior Football Club had presented an invitation for 2 councillors to a presentation evening. Unfortunately, there were no councillors available on the night in question. Aztecs were to be thanked for the invitation.

Few & Kester had replied regarding the Market Square. The Clerk outlined the current status and advised that the PC Solicitor was recommending to do nothing further at this time. This was accepted by the meeting.

ACRE had forwarded an invitation to a Forum Conference. Should any one wish to attend, details were available in the PC office.

A resident had written expressing concern over a Street Trading request for a kebab van in the SCDC car park in Coles Lane. The Clerk had ad-

vised the resident of the current situation. With the Police objecting, and the PC seeking a reduction of trading hours, SCDC had decided not to allow it at this time.

There had been a CC/Highways request to complete a Satisfaction Survey form. C^{llr} Urwin and the Clerk agreed to complete and return this item. It was generally agreed that there was little 'satisfaction' to be found!



Pot-n-Hole
Notification from SCDC that a district-wide Design Guide was now to be compiled.

In any other business the Chairman reported the office main phone line had been damaged by the lightning and would be out of action until Tuesday 11th May. Councillors should use the 'hotline' when necessary.

C^{llr} Rossiter queried who owned and operated the Linton.Info website. C^{llr} Potter reported that it was owned and operated by the Linton News. It was about to have a new format.

Discussion then took place regarding the letter in the Linton News regarding Parish Matters. Some councillors considered that the minutes should be shorter. However, it was noted that the Minutes formed part of the history of the Parish and the majority of councillors

themselves wished there to be more 'meat' on the bones. It was agreed, however, that the Clerk could reply to the letter seeking the assistance of the writer with the Parish Matters editing if they were willing!

Finally, the Chairman noted that it is Hedgehog Awareness week.

The meeting closed at 21.20.

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