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Saturday 7th August
10.00 - 12.00
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E & E PLUMRIDGE

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SETTING A COMMUNITY IN STONE

SATURDAY 3rd July provided a great opportunity for the residents of Chalklands and Paynes Meadow to get together with friends from the rest of the village and local dignitaries to celebrate the unveiling of the Chalklands' Stone. This has been several years in preparation and there have been difficulties to be overcome along the way, but at last it is complete and in place at the bottom of Chalklands!

The beautiful golden Clipsham stone was carved by Linda Richardson of Mills and Eagin from a design adapted from an original by Maureen Williams of Chalklands. The completion of the Arts Council project coincided with the 50th year since Chalklands was built thus giving a wonderful chance to celebrate both events!

The stone was unveiled by Councillors Joan Smith and

Deborah Roberts, who cut the ribbon. Darryl Nantais, who has been the instigator and co-ordinator of the project in Chalklands gave a short speech of thanks to all the sponsors and all who had been concerned with the Arts Project, followed by some comments and thanks from Chalklands residents' association's life president, John Franklin. A celebratory glass of wine or soft drink was offered with a piece of a celebratory cake!

There was an exhibition in the community room of works of art and craft by local residents and a display of 1950s memorabilia and old postcards of Linton along with a video of the 1950s. Tea, coffee and soft drinks were served as well as sandwiches and other light refreshments and there was a big raffle, which was enthusiastically supported by



Residents of Chalklands and Paynes Meadow and their friends celebrate the unveiling of the stone.

all present! Music of the 1950s was provided throughout by Roger Carder which added to the atmosphere and kept people's feet tapping. A small army of residents managed the

kitchen, keeping refreshments flowing and doing washing up. Despite a rather breezy start even the weather kept fine! Cherry Fisher 892873

JUNIORS HIT 75 NOT OUT

FROM a chance conversation at a playgroup quiz night, the Linton Junior Cricket Club was conceived. Now in its second year, it has grown from an initial membership of 40 boys and girls, aged from seven to 13 years, to around 75, and links Linton Heights, LVC, Linton Sports Centre and the Village Cricket Club. Run by Oliver Priestley, Paul Foster, Paul Herbert and Neil Gardner and ably assisted by several others, the club now competes in three leagues. Two teams play under 11s whilst one competes at under 13 level. Matches are played on week nights with home fixtures played on the recreation field.

The four founder coaches were trained over last winter to English Cricket Board Grade I level. They gain a lot of satisfaction from encouraging the youngsters to enjoy the sport, but with interest so high a few more adult supervisors would be most appreciated.

A huge thank you must go



Practising for Michael Vaughan's job
Picture by Tracey Wilson



Some of the members of Linton Junior Cricket Club.

to the Cornerstone community church and Lloyds Bank plc for their sponsorship. We very much hope they will continue into next season.

Recent successes have seen wins for the U11A's in their league against teams from both Babraham and Wilbraham, also two U11s teams contested the annual Abington Kwik Cricket competition on 11th July. Both recorded some great victories before narrowly missing a place in the semi-finals. Although there is no formal league for the younger players, the under nines recently held a competition on Linton recreation ground, involving four teams from within the club. Despite the weather, a large crowd of parents witnessed a very successful event and certificates were awarded to the eventual winners. Also several girls from the club represented

South Cambridgeshire in a tournament on 11th July in which they were runners-up to a strong Cambridge City team. The icing on the cake however, was the appearance of two of the boys for the senior teams' 2nd XI.

The club can be seen playing on the morning of 8th August on the recreation ground, as a run-up to the President's XI match played the same afternoon. Why not make a day of it?

If you wish to join the club, all abilities are catered for. Please call Oliver Priestley on 894044 to register interest for the President's day competition or for the planned winter sessions to follow; and next season. Also, the club would be very pleased to hear from any potential local match sponsors.

Paul Foster & LNT

THE SOUND OF LEATHER ON WILLOW

LVCC President's XI will be playing against Vice Chairman's XI at 2pm on Sunday 8th August on Linton Meadow.

This year the attractions include tombola and a bouncy castle. As usual there will be a bar, barbecue and Gren and Nikki's famous Pimms bar, not forgetting the cricket.

It is a fantastic day out for all the family, so come along and support your local cricket team.

LNT

TEDDY BEARS' PICNIC

LOOKING for activities to do with your under fives during the summer break? Then come on down to the Teddy Bears' Picnic summer special storytime at the library at 2:15pm on 10th August. It will feature all the usual fun of stories, songs, rhymes and art activities, with a few extras. The session will be a little longer than usual, but will still be free. All you have to do is turn up, but please bring your teddy!

Storytime runs every Tuesday 2.0-2.30pm at the library, even during school holidays, although from September it will be running at the slightly later time of 2.15-2.45pm.

Hilary Crooks 894373

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 SC
Weekly: IT Club, 7pm, Tuesdays Cathodeon Centre
Weekly: Tots in Tow, 10-11.30am, Tuesdays Social Centre
Weekly: Little Acorns, 10.00am-11.30am, Thursdays SC
Weekly: Carpet Bowls, 7.30pm, Thursdays Social Centre
Weekly: Bridge Club, 7pm, Fridays Cathodeon Centre

August

3 **WI, 7.30pm** Social Centre
3 Linton Chess Club, 7.30pm Social Centre
5 Luncheon Club, 12.15pm The Crown
8 **Linton junior cricket match, 10.30am** Pavilion
8 **President's cricket match, 2pm** Pavilion
8 **Camera club away day, 9.30am** Coles Lane car park
10 VIP Group, 2pm Chalklands
10 Teddy bears' picnic storytime, 2.15pm Library
14 The Ceileidh All Stars, free entertainment, 1pm High Street
14 **History society walk, 2pm** Black Bull Balsham
17 Linton Chess Club, 7.30pm Social Centre
18 **ACE afternoon tea cruise, 1.30 for 2pm** Social Centre
18 CAMTAD 9am-12noon Health Centre
21 Samba Spectacular, free entertainment, 1pm High Street
26 Hoofbeat, free entertainment, 1pm High Street
25 Rock Cafe, 1.30-3pm Social Centre
25 Citizens Advice, 1.30-3pm Social Centre
20 Linton Chess Club, 7.30pm Social Centre
25 Councillor Surgery, 2-3pm Social Centre
31 Linton Chess Club, 7.30pm Social Centre

Refuse collection: 9th, 23rd
Recycling collection: 2nd, 16th, 31st (Tuesday)

September

2 Luncheon Club, 12.15pm The Crown
5 Aztec Fun Day LVC
5 **Car boot sale, 10am-4pm** Weston Colville cricket ground
5 **Thurlow Fayre, 1-4pm** Gt, Thurlow sportsground
7 **WI, 7.30pm** Social Centre
11 Historic Churches Trust Cycle Ride, all day, telephone 894715
13 Community Education Adult Class Enrolment, 7-9pm LVC
14 VIP Group, 2pm Chalklands
18 Friends of S' Mary's Lunch, 12.15, Chalklands

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

THE GOOD OLD DAYS

TO quote ex Linton policeman Bill Barnett, "I humbly beg to report" that over 30 of Linton's senior citizens enjoyed another successful soup and roll lunch on Friday 16th July. Bill talked about his time as a local policeman in Linton in the 1950s, recalling some of the characters of the time, and incidents in which he was involved. Linton had three officers based here then, and there were magistrates who knew and dealt with local miscreants, so things were rather different from the situation today. From Linton Bill moved to Fulbourn and then became sergeant at Sawston police station, but has returned to spend his retirement living in Linton.

More than £50 was raised at the lunch from a raffle and donations which will be used to help finance the work of ACE.

Our next event will be the cruise on the river Cam in the river boat 'Georgina' on 18th August. A reminder for those who have places booked that the coach will be at the social centre at 1.30pm and leave for Cambridge at 2.00pm.

Plans are in hand for future events including a trip to Bury S' Edmunds in September, a fish and chip lunch in October and a garden centre/shopping outing in November, so watch out for more information about these in the next Linton News. Janet Crofts 893619

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FROM WHERE I'M SITTING

by TONY SMITH

IF any of us ever thinks we are important, we can always rely on someone to burst our bubble.

On one of my travels, a gentleman stopped me and said, "You're that chap who writes in the Linton News". After confirming that indeed I was, he went on, "I never read it". This made me laugh all the way home.

Amongst the friendliness of the people who stop and talk, a conversation with another gentleman recently hit me very hard and I have sat and thought for ages about his words. He told me, "Linton hasn't got any villagers anymore. Linton has got people who live in a village".

I think I know what he means. I am, as M^r Ketteridge once told me, an 'Old Saffron Walden boy'. Going from the town to my uncle and aunt's cottage in Barton in the school holidays I recall how everyone in the village seemed to know me and how keen they were to turn me into a villager for the short time I was there.

With one set of grandparents living almost at the top of Merton Place in Littlebury, I found myself again in the comforts of country life as my nan's health faded, and my mum took on what was a full-time job to help her to regain her independence. I still remember the glorious summers where my day began by visiting the Queen's Head pub in the village. M^{rs} Brand cooked me Dunmow Fitch sausages and chips, followed by very cold orange squash with freshly pumped water from the well, and yes, my mouth still waters at the memories, even after some forty years! I never gave a thought then to the number of people who greeted me by my first name, or 'Young Miff'. Everyone, it seemed knew who I was all around Littlebury.

I married and moved to Haverhill, a town where no one was interested in who you were. Many did not even know their next-door-neighbours. After ten years, my nine-year-old daughter Carrie died in a road accident, a week after my marriage ended and my life, as I knew it, ended too.

"What you need is some time away from that town", a friend suggested, and I found myself living in the old schoolmistress's cottage in Poslingford, two miles from Clare in Suffolk, opposite the quite beautiful church. I could walk a few yards in any direction and be in the middle of a field or in a lane leading nowhere. Summer months were bliss; winters were hell. The villagers took me under their wing, almost a repeat of my childhood days, but eventually life's twists and turns bought me here to Linton.

My alter ego, 'Famous Dave' the singer, enabled me to get to know many people. (Do any of you still remember those week-ends in the Wagon?). But things somehow did not feel the same. The characters, the fields, the villagers were all here, but there seemed to be extremely strong feelings, even resentment, about Linton and the way that new areas and people divided the village.

I think these days, few are interested in being part of their countryside, their community, and their village. So, with all this in mind, I have some questions for you this month.

Could we bring together all the skills and ingenuity that the people of Linton have, to work with each other to be a whole community, to get to know the entire village, not just the immediate area where we live?

Could we resurrect the carnival or a village fete, something to bring everyone together? I promise Famous Dave will not sing!

I would really love to be able, when I see Carrie again, to tell her that I was a villager, not someone who just happened to live in a village.

Please take care of yourselves, and I will try very hard to see you all next month.

K-CLUB WINNERS

The winners of the July 2nd prize (£25) **Josie Buxton**
K-Club monthly draw: (No 228)
1st prize (£50) **Pat Turner** 3rd prize (£10) **Mrs C E Foster**
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WHAT A CORNY BUSINESS

AFTER three years of hard work and tender loving care, Robert Cole's house on the corner of Cole's Lane and the High Street is finally complete. Over this period, local builders Mallyon and Donaldson have undertaken all the structural renovation and M^r Donaldson senior all the fitting out.

The house was built around 1546 for a man of some standing, indicated by the high ceilings; most probably a London merchant. It originally consisted of the building that faces the High Street which is now divided into three houses. This section is built from former ship's oak timbers as Henry VIII had passed a law decreeing that new oak could only be used to build his ships and not wasted on houses! The part of the property which faces Cole's Lane was built 100 years later and there are Georgian alterations inside as well as 1920s and 1960s extensions.

Robert Cole, who was a local corn merchant described as a "meal man" in the records, was living in the property in

1724. He was a churchwarden but it was his nephew William Cole, who lodged in the village for a time, who acquired a degree of fame as an antiquarian at the University. It became apparent that Robert Cole had sold corn from the premises even though there was no shop front because seven inches of corn husks were found piled under the floor boards.

Most people will remember that when Gary Donaldson bought the house it was in a very poor state; and the garrets had been unsafe for many years. The dormer windows which had been removed in the 1960s have been reinstated, and this floor now consists of a quaint sloping-ceilinged bedroom with a wonderful view along the High Street and a studio which overlooks the small garden. The rest of the house has been beautifully renovated with Cambridgeshire clay tiles on the ground floor and a modern but unfitted kitchen. There are exposed beams everywhere and a neutral wall colour throughout, thus restoring the Grade two



Robert Cole's House in Cole's Lane.

Picture by Tracey Wilson

listed house to its original character with modern conveniences and style to complement it.

M^r Donaldson senior, a former cabinet maker, is responsible for all the handsome woodwork, and he has crafted many pieces to fit the vagaries of this ancient house. His lifelong love of wood is obvious to anyone who has observed his

painstaking skill, and all who stopped to chat during the last three years have been encompassed by his enthusiasm. Any future owner will doubtless cherish the house for all the love and effort that has been invested in its restoration, and Robert Cole would definitely be impressed.

LNT

SPRINGBOARD TO THE FUTURE

LINTON has had a successful first year in its efforts to encourage and train Britain's next generation of gymnasts.

Dynamics Gymnastics - Linton, a club for children and young people, began last September with the aim of teaching basic gymnastic skills covering a range of disciplines.

These skills lead to the winning of badges from the British Gymnastics Proficiency Awards Scheme and Dynamics Gymnastics' own award scheme.

During each session, novice gymnasts have the

chance to learn skills on a variety of equipment including floor, vault, beam, bar, trampette and trampoline.

The classes take place at Linton Village College on Monday nights during term time, with some 50 registered gymnasts taking part.

They train under the supervision of head coaches Diane Clark and Nikki Linsdell, who both live in Linton, and who would like to take this opportunity to thank local schools for their help and support in the club's first year.

They have both enjoyed

working with some talented and enthusiastic young people and look forward to welcoming many more gymnasts to the club in the future.

Classes run from 4.15pm-5.15pm for five to seven year-old beginners, and from 5.15-6.15pm for older beginners and improvers.

Dynamics Gymnastics - Linton has sister clubs in Saffron Walden, Cambridge and Royston. For further information on any of the clubs, please contact:

Nikki 892215 or email info@dynamicsgymnastics.co.uk

A STROLL AROUND THE MOUNTAINS

THIS year the Cambridgeshire local history society is delighted to invite you to accompany it for lunch and a leisurely stroll around the picturesque village of Balsham, the mountainous region of south Cambridgeshire!

The walk will be led by Anthea Robinson, Balsham's local historian. Meet for lunch at the Black Bull before the walk which begins at 2pm on Saturday 14th August.

All enquiries to: Secretary 811703

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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.

HELICOPTER OR UFO

Dear Editor
 I was woken at 1.00am on a Saturday morning last month by a loud lumbering sound – it was over the top of my house.

I opened the front door to see what it was and a beam of light was dashing about in the front gardens. I quickly closed the door as I thought it would beam me up Scottie.

Did anyone else hear it?
 Miss I Thompson
 15A Hillway

OUR THANKS

Dear Editor
 We would like to thank everyone who came along for our Charity Walk. After being cancelled from the week before, we had a lovely evening, walking from the Infant School to Hildersham and back. We collected £64, which is being sent to the Children's Hospice at Milton. We also collected £23.50 in coppers towards funds for Monday group's young leader to go to Mexico.

I am now updating the Brownie waiting list. If you have a daughter who would like to join, please give me a ring. Starting age is seven years old.

Daphne Brazier
 37a Balsham Road
 892276

Dear Editor
 I would like to thank the kind people who nominated me for an award organised by the Cambridge Evening News.

To my great surprise I was voted runner-up for 'Beyond the Call of Duty' award. I have collected a certificate for this, which was presented to me by the Cambridge Evening News.

I feel that I do my job to the best of my ability for the enjoyment of the elderly clients, which in turn gives me job satisfaction. Once again, thank you, and also to all my well-wishers.

George Glover
 Symonds House Day
 Centre Driver

VOTING WOES

Dear Editor
 During the elections I had complaints about non receipt of literature and some people said that as they could not consider the full range of views they would choose not to vote. I promised to complain officially to the Post Office. This I duly did.

The reply was that no Conservative literature was received, and that from the Green Party was insufficient to cover all of Symonds Lane. However they asserted that Chalklands, which I particularly drew to their attention, had received theirs. I hope that coincides with people's experience!

I felt the matter needed airing since we are always hearing complaints about voter apathy. Also, all the literature for European elections is paid for by us, the taxpayers.

Joan Smith
 10 Symonds Lane

LINTON LEADS THE WAY

THE first "Section 30 Order" to be issued to a Cambridgeshire village is expected to come into force in Linton at the beginning of August. The order is designed to address anti-social behaviour and will apply to the public open space at the front of the Copperfields estate and to the area of Wheatsheaf Way facing Linton Heights school.

For some time the local residents have been subjected to noise, rowdy behaviour and personal abuse, sometimes continuing into the early hours, by groups of young people congregating in these areas.

The police are restricted in what they can do about moving people on from areas of public open space without having direct evidence of criminal activity. The Order gives them new powers to address anti-social behaviour. Following a series of meetings the police, District Council and the Parish Council have all agreed to the

order. It gives the police the power to move on groups of two or more people from an area where local residents have experienced distress and harassment. It also allows the police to take home children under 16 who are on the streets unsupervised after 9pm. It only applies to the specified areas and will only be in force for an initial three-month period.

I hope that this will bring some relief to local residents but it is not the long-term answer. The underlying issues must be addressed. To help do this Linton Action for Youth will be leading an outreach youth work project to engage the young people concerned. The main worry has to be that young people are putting themselves at risk on our streets. The community has a responsibility to do what it can to keep Linton safe, and parents need to take responsibility for the actions of their children.

John Batchelor 892111

HOPE FOR IMPROVEMENT TO OUR NIGHTMARE ROAD

DURING 2003 the Access 1307 group had been advised that the County Council would be undertaking a safety study on one of its major routes, and at that time the A10 was the favoured road.

On 8th December 2003 the group presented a petition of 1,353 signatures to the Area Joint Committee requesting action to improve safety and access along the A1307. This petition prompted work to start on a 'Route Safety Study' for the A1307.

This safety study has resulted in the collation of vast amounts of traffic flow data, analysis of accident sites and the preparation of some proposed solutions. The route study also found that the proportion of fatal and serious accidents is nearly 32% which is significantly greater than the norm for South Cambridgeshire of 19%.

In June 2004, the Area Joint Committee heard details of the proposed solutions although a traffic simulation is yet to be completed. These proposals will still have to compete for

funding against many different schemes within the County, so it may be several years until these are implemented, but it is the first time that a holistic approach has been taken to the problems on the A1307.

The proposed solutions are:
 a) Carriageway and access modification in the vicinity of the Dalehead Food factory.
 b) Interactive road signing (along the whole length).
 c) Installation of street lighting at Babraham.
 d) The closure of the central reservation gaps on the dual carriageway at Dean Road crossroads and the prohibition of the right turn into and out of Horseheath Road, integrated with the existing proposal to construct a roundabout at the Bartlow Road crossroads.

This last scheme should score higher in the County Council's funding than just the roundabout on its own – next funding bid is spring 2005.

The traffic simulation is now being undertaken to look at the effect of traffic flow with the proposed solutions along with the new traffic lights at

the Village College entrance. The results should be available in September.

All schemes will be judged on an accident scoring scheme and it is therefore important that any injury accidents are reported to the Police. An accident where a cyclist or occupant of a vehicle suffers a bruise or even a cut scores 1 point, however a fatal accident scores just 4.

REPORT YOUR ACCIDENT AND RAISE THE SCORE

Historically junctions in the Linton area do not show a high amount of slight accidents and therefore we lose out in this system. (A junction with two fatal accidents scores lower than one with nine slight accidents) – so if you are unfortunate to be involved in an accident please make sure that it is recorded. So far in 2004, the number of accidents on this road has dramatically reduced, so let's hope this is a good omen for the future. For any further information, please contact:

Esther Cornell
 Access1307@btopenworld.com

SIX INTO ONE WILL GO

TWO new members and three visitors joined us for a fascinating and lively evening. It was good to have our secretary, Brenda Smith, back with us, who is now recovering well from her recent knee operation. President Tricia Lewis was going into hospital the following morning for her knee operation and the rest of the committee offering to go on committee!

Sadly, an older member had died recently and a minute's silence was held to allow us to remember her and to think of her family.

After three successful fundraisers recently, another is arranged for 29th July; a Mad Hatters' Tea Party, which is to be held at the home of Mrs Impey. Hats must be worn! Glamorous or woolly depending on the weather, though hopefully summer will have returned by then.

The Harvest Supper in September will be a 'Bring and

Share'. A vote was taken regarding our Christmas supper, the majority in favour of self-catering this year. Therefore a catering sub-committee will be formed.

Our speaker Mrs Fran Saltmarsh, chairperson of Denman College, but as she said, basically she is a member of Chippenham WI, was warmly welcomed. An excellent talk followed illustrating, by a very clever basic costume, the Six Wives of Henry VIII. As Mrs Saltmarsh adroitly added different accessories she gave a brief resumé of each wife and our history knowledge sprang to life. Needlewomen in the audience were no doubt particularly impressed, but everyone enjoyed it and Fran's friendly personality.

Next meeting is 7.30pm on August 3rd at the Social Centre when there will be a talk on 'Trading Standards'.

Clare Neville
 893251

DID THIS AFFECT YOU?



A MAJOR disruption was caused by this large lorry which had jack-knifed on the A1307 at Little Abington early in the morning of 29th June. The driver was taken to

Addenbrooke's hospital. The police closed the road all morning causing various diversions and a good deal of inconvenience in the area.
 Jim Cracknell

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SUMMER

By Sonny Smith, father of 'from where I'm sitting' Tony

Where oh where did our summer go?
Did we get what was promised? Oh dear no!
Instead of suntan what did we get?
Brollies and wellies, and quite a bit wet

Children at home for six weeks or more
Mum going spare 'cos they can't get outdoor
Dad had his holiday, all went to the sea
Everybody looking forward to a fish and chip tea

"What a grey day", they all said to mother
"Hope it brightens up soon" said one to another,
So off we started our amusement to seek
"Make the best of it", said Mum, "We're here for a week."

But after two days of cold winds and rain
Trudging about gave us all a pain
No use going down to play with the sand
Or listen to music because there was no band

Dad said that's enough, pack up your things
Might as well be home, and the comfort it brings
So here we all are, what a so and so
Just where, oh where, did our summer go?

LINTON CHURCHES HOST MORE ALPHA COURSES

THE Alpha course is a highly acclaimed study programme which is especially designed to help people find out about the teachings of Christianity within a friendly, hospitable group setting. Most Alpha courses consist of ten sessions. Over the past few years the churches in Linton have hosted a number of Alpha courses which have been well attended by a very wide range of people.

This autumn, the churches in Linton will be working together in hosting a number of

Alpha courses, probably an afternoon course, an evening course and one designed for youth. We would like to extend a warm invitation to all readers of the Linton News to be part of an Alpha group.

If you are interested or if you would like more information, please call one of the following numbers: 891291, 892991 or 01799 584483.

Specific course details will be publicised nearer the time.

Alex Jacob, Minister
Linton Free Church
Horn Lane

A DIAMOND COUPLE



George and Ann Peake and inset, on their wedding day

WHEN George Peake met Ann Austin in 1942, it was for them a bright moment during the dark days of World War Two.

They were both working in the War Office in London, George as an army clerical officer and Ann as a typist.

They fell in love and two years later were married ... and now, on 26th August this year, they are celebrating a lifetime together with their diamond wedding anniversary.

After the war, George and Ann set up home in Wood Green where they raised their three daughters.

In the early 1980s, they both retired and in 1983, they moved

to Linton to be near their youngest daughter and her husband.

To mark the diamond anniversary, there will be a family celebration at Quy Mill with two of their daughters and their husbands and two grandsons.

The third daughter lives in South Africa with her family, and later George and Ann will be flying to Johannesburg for some more celebrations.

While there, two special events are in store — a visit to see their first great grandson, who should have been born on 19th July, the day before George's 90th birthday, and the marriage of their granddaughter early in September. LNT

18,000 HOUSES IN ABINGTON, WHAT YOU CAN DO.....

YOU will have seen press articles and heard rumours about proposals for another 18,000 homes, forced upon us by central Government. These are in addition to the 22,000 that are already planned in South Cambs to provide housing as our region develops over the next 12 years.

Why so many new homes; 18,000 is a town almost twice the size of Haverhill? The answer is that they are largely to support Stansted expansion and Greater London housing needs. Not to support local growth or housing needs.

The current facts are:-
•The push for the extra 18,000 homes is from the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister (ODPM) and John Prescott.

•The ODPM has appointed a firm of specialist consultants to compile the necessary data and make recommendations as to the location of these houses and a report should have been published at the end of July. These are the same consultants that reported on the implications of the original Stansted development in September 2003.

•The homes are to be built in the London-Stansted-Cambridge-Peterborough "M11 corridor". Regardless of lack of local support there has been pressure to focus on our area.

•After the consultant's

report a draft Regional Spatial Strategy will be presented to local councils — this could be produced by autumn of this year. There will then be at least 12 weeks for consultation. The final strategy may be decided by mid 2006.

This development would have a massive impact on our lives, and even if the 18,000 homes were to be split into smaller projects (such as being spread amongst the Abingtons or other villages close to the M11 / A505) it is way beyond an acceptable level of expansion. Our road systems for one could not cope.

So what can you do? It is not too late to add your objections by writing to the following:

Roland Hancock,
Policy Advisor,
Growth Area Division,
ODPM,
1 / C5 Eland House
Bressenden Place
London, SW1E 5PU

Do not delay. The more local people who write and protest the better.

Once the report is available there will be more specific recommendations that we must focus on.

Your local Conservative MPs - led by Jim Paice - are already fighting this proposal at every level. Peter Phase 892564 www.peter@phase4consulting.co.uk

LINTON AREA POOL PROJECT

A MEETING to decide the terms of the feasibility study with the County and the Parish Council representative was held on 28th July. Hopefully there will be a report on this in next month's Linton New.

LAPP are very encouraged and grateful for the boost given by the generous promise of half the proceeds of the Wacky Races by The Crown.

Joan Smith 892904

...AND WHAT HAS ALREADY BEEN DONE

A NUMBER of meetings have been held in the last few weeks in order to coordinate opposition to the Government's plans to impose a further 18,000 houses on our area. The parish councils are getting together to present a united front, and locally we are looking to 'Stop Abington New Town' (SANT), the Abington pressure group, to lead the fight.

The decision about the allocation of these houses will be taken by the East of England

Regional Assembly (EERA), a group of appointed (not directly elected) councillors. The process is already well advanced: the consultants have effectively finished their work; the final report has been delivered to the regional authorities. The Regional Planning Panel will consider the report on 10th September and the decision will be taken by EERA at their meeting in October.

Joan Smith and Patrick Orme have delivered petitions

from Abington and Linton to the Office Of The Deputy Prime Minister, and a response has been received, unfortunately denying all responsibility and pointing the finger at the regional authority! For the moment we have done all we can. In September we will know what the recommendation is. We are organised and ready to defend our area if it becomes necessary.

John Batchelor 892111



Gift Aid: Henry Rose and the lucky parish representatives
Picture by Saffron Walden Reporter

ST MARY'S church Linton is to benefit this year from a £200 donation given by local estate agent Kevin Henry. The gift brings to £600 the amount that the firm has given to St Mary's over the past two years.

Linton is one of a number of parishes in the Saffron Walden

area which benefits annually from the generosity of this estate agent. Over the past ten years Kevin Henry has donated thousands of pounds. "It is our way of giving something back to the community," said Kevin Henry partner Henry Rowe.

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LITTLE HANDS ARE NEW TO LINTON

LEARNING through play is the practical philosophy of Little Hands nursery school, Linton which is scheduled to open its doors for business on 6th September. Ideally situated for Linton and the surrounding villages the nursery school offers a unique "building block" approach to the provision of childcare so parents can select those sessions most suited to them and their child.

Located in the former stationmaster's house in what was Linton railway station on Station Road, this charismatic building comprises large airy rooms adjoining the entrance hall with direct access to the fully equipped and totally enclosed outdoor play area on the ground floor and a dedicated pre-school room on the first.

Sessions offered are general nursery school sessions, music and movement and lunch sessions with a more structured pre-school session for children the year before school entry. Parents may book as few or as many sessions as they wish.

"Little Hands" started life in 1991 as a home based playgroup in Duxford and quickly outgrowing that setting moved

to Newton Hall before expanding into Melbourn, Bourn and now Linton.

"Little Hands" provides quality nursery school education for children from two years old as we have one member of staff to every four children. We are therefore a particularly suitable setting for quieter or more timid children and we specialise in providing mainstream education for those with special needs, giving one to one help where needed.

All of our nursery schools are Ofsted inspected and approved for the Early Years Education Funding Scheme.

In April 2004 Little Hands Nursery School Newton was inspected by Ofsted who categorised the standard of care as good which is the highest attainable and the effectiveness of the nursery education as very good which again is the highest attainable, and measurably demonstrates the quality of our childcare provision.

To see what we have to offer children, parents and prospective staff please contact:

Jane Marshall
503972 or
jane_marshall@littlehands.co.uk

IT'S OFFICIAL, WE'RE GREAT

FOLLOWING the recent Ofsted Inspection of Chestnut Playgroup, we are pleased that it has been given an excellent report. Established over 30 years ago it currently has 47 children from two to four years old attending its sessions. It also supports a number of children with special needs and children who speak English as an additional language.

The report highlighted seven specific areas of assessment. In all areas, the Ofsted judgment awarded was very good, which is the highest attainable rating!

Chestnut playgroup also achieved an 'aspect of outstanding practice', which was the excellent outdoor area where staff and children have created their own garden so that children can discover and explore the natural world.

In addition, the leadership and management by Anya Brooks was highly praised as was the teaching of the eight part-time members of staff who "build very good relationships with the children".

The playgroup also builds very good relationships with both parents and the local school.

The staff and committee at the playgroup are delighted



Fun and education in the garden

Picture by John Keeble

with the outcome of the inspection. They feel that this is a reflection of the enthusiasm and dedication of a well-trained staff team and of the ongoing strong support of the parent committee. It is so exciting to achieve an area of outstanding practice for our outdoor play and we hope to be able to increase this; it would be great to have some involvement with the local community in sharing our vision for this and anyone who may wish to be involved may like to contact us.

The parent committee would particularly like to thank Anya and all the staff for their

hard work and commitment to make the playgroup such an amazing success!

Chestnut playgroup also runs the Acorn toddler group at the social centre on Tuesday and Thursday mornings. This has been a huge success and anyone wishing to attend can phone Kate on 894638 for details. As a reminder, Tuesdays sessions for 18 months and older runs from 10-11.30am during term time and Thursdays sessions for under twos run term times and all through the holidays from 10-11.30am. Older siblings up to five years are welcome during holidays.

Kate Clark 894638

MIDSUMMER MADNESS

THE 'Midsummer Madness' evening, organised on behalf of both Linton Granta and Chestnuts playgroups once again proved to be a big success. Held at the Heights School in June, the event was attended by parents and carers of children from both playgroups. A fun casino, games, disco, pop quiz and raffle were just some of the activities enjoyed at this popular event.

The money raised will be split between both playgroups to fund new materials and equipment.

Kate Clark 894638

FAMILY FUN AT THURLOW FAYRE

THIS year's Thurlow Fayre takes place from 1pm-4pm on Sunday 5th September at the sportsground, Great Thurlow and combines traditional countryside pursuits like long netting and sheepherding, with more modern activities like kiddies go-karts and a bouncy army assault course.

With bungee jumping, tug-of-war, morris dancing and maypole dancing, face painting, crockery smashing, tractor rides, toddler rides and much much more, not forgetting the tea tent, licensed bar and BBQ, there is something for everyone. Even a fun dog show to ensure that your pet will not be left out of the fun. Parking is free; so see you there.

For full details please contact me:

Dr Susanne White
01440 783757 or
www.thurlowfayre.org.uk

CAR BOOT

WESTON Colville recreation group is raising funds for a playground in the village. A car boot sale will held on Weston Colville cricket meadow from 10am - 4pm on Sunday 5th September. Spaces are limited so it is best to book early.

For further details and to book your pitch please contact me:

Cherry Pearce 290823

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BREAD AND WINE AT LINTON VILLAGE COLLEGE

SINCE our last report we have held our annual family quiz night and the winners for the third year running are the unbeatable Bakers' half dozen. Well done to them.

At the interval we had very tasty chicken and chip and fish and chip suppers, supplied by Chippies of Haverhill. We had our usual bar, which was very

popular.

In response to several requests, our next planned event will be another wine tasting with wines from around the world supplied by Hedley Wright (Wine Merchants) Limited. The date for this is 19th November.

The Farmers' market has been at the College for six

months now and continues to be very popular. It is well worth making a visit and if you do, come and see us in the tea-room!

Friends of Linton Village College wish you a happy summer break and hope to be back later in the year.

Sue on 01799 584522 or Jane on 01799 584264

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ENLIST FOR THE PEOPLE'S WAR

IN last month's Linton News you may have read that the IT Club is offering to help readers document their reminiscences of World War two for inclusion onto the BBC's People's War web site.

If you cannot get to the IT Club, Granta Grapevine, Linton's Talking Newspaper can assist by coming to you and making a short recording which can be converted to text for the IT Club's BBC project, or used on the magazine side of our monthly tape.

We are always interested in text or spoken material for the tape, which has been produced

for partially sighted listeners in the Linton area for the last 14 years.

The equipment that Granta Grapevine uses for its recordings can be seen at a special display at their AGM at 2.30pm on Wednesday October 13th at Chalklands.

Please get in touch if you have anything that you would like recorded or if you can help with articles for the tape.

Contact Clare Neville on 893251, Janet Conochie on 894460, Derek Birch of the IT Club on 892607 or myself:

Mike Crofts
893619

WANTED: A TREASURER

REWARD: knowing that you are doing something for your community by keeping the funds of the Linton News on the straight and narrow. Our treasurer is moving on to an even more beautiful part of the country, and apart from

envying him and wishing we were going too, we are going to miss his excellent skills.

If you would like to take his place and join this very small team, please contact us. See back page for details.

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COMPUTER BLOCK? HELP ABOUNDS IN HAVERHILL

COMPUTERS are magic when you know what to do but when you don't, and the help menu can't even understand your questions, the magic turns to frustration. How many of us are familiar with less than 20% of the facilities on our PCs and would like to do more but are not sure where to start?

The little I knew about Word and Excel was picked up at work. I really missed the office helper when I left. Members of the Linton computer club are good at finding answers but that's only on Tuesday nights.

The answer came in a flyer through the door, which for once wasn't dumped straight in the bin.

Free computer training is available at Haverhill IT learning centre, 1st Floor, 46a Queen Street, Haverhill. That means free to everyone over 16 who is not in full time education. Centre manager, Katie Hart says the courses are to give confidence to use the computer.

The Microsoft Office Suite courses cover internet, e-mail, desktop publishing, presentation graphics, word processing, spreadsheets and database. They are self-paced from easy to read books and there is no pressure to hurry. The tutors are always ready to help and cheerfully answer even the most basic questions.

The centre is open for two

hourly sessions starting at 9am, six days a week. The last session starts at 7 pm on Mondays to Thursdays and at 3 pm on Fridays and Saturdays.

Registration is just a matter of calling 01440 764909 to arrange a date for an induction course which commits you to nothing until you decide to sign on.

The atmosphere is relaxed and friendly, but I did hesitate over a 'See Me' school-like comment on the signing-in sheet. When I dared to follow it up, it was only for a chat with a tutor about an assessment result; I wasn't handed any lines or black marks.

Kate France 891602

A GOOD YEAR FOR FRIENDS OF LINTON HEIGHTS

THE unseasonably wet weather failed to dampen the spirits at the Friends of Linton Heights summer fair, which produced a record profit of £2,450. Much of this was due to the efforts of the children themselves, who came up with their usual selection of weird and wacky stalls. From nail painting and beat-the-goalie to the sale of handmade ceramic coasters, the children's stalls made an amazing £415 which will go directly towards new playground equipment for next term.

The summer fair was the

climax to a successful year for the Friends, bringing the total raised for the year to almost £10,000.

The Friends have been able to support the school by providing money for new interactive white boards, as well as a new cover for the swimming pool and a lovely mosaic created by the children during art week.

The Friends' would like to thank all those who have made this possible by their generous support of Friends events throughout the year.

Tony Kelly

SUMMER PLAYSCHOOL

LINTON Granta playgroup and toddlers will hold a special summer playgroup during the school holidays. The sessions are open to all children under five and will include lots of fun activities suitable for all weathers. The sessions will run from 10am-12noon on Wednesdays 11th, 18th and 25th August in the youth centre at LVC. There will be a small charge which will include refreshments.

This is an ideal opportunity for children starting playgroup in September to participate in some of the playgroup activities and meet some of the staff who will be running the sessions.

Liz Crump
892471

LINTON COUNTRY DIARY by Darryl Nantais

Illustrated by Maureen Williams

REMEMBER the Alamo. On the fourth day of July the moon appeared as a golden dollar. Shining and slipping out from behind a velvety pocket of clouds into full view at a moment before midnight. The lazy beams pined over Linton and the newly carved stone, a sedimentary rock dug from a Grantham quarry now on the corner of Chalklands, glowed like a giant nugget.

You see, there are those that know, and those that only think they know. But those that know, know that those who only think they know, think that those that do know, don't know that those who only think they know, don't know! Still with me, or is this the famous stone that turneth all to gold?

You see, at five in the morning a kestrel hovered high above the carving in progress but nevertheless, having never seen one here before, I found it hard not to consider its symbolic power, after all it was the nearest thing to a golden eagle that day!

My mother, though English, was a good third Indian and my father was reputed to be a French-Canadian from Quebec. I took to speaking French and eating snails for many years of my life like well, like a frog to water. Spotting trout and noting minute changes in a stream was as my late friend Guy would say 'uncannily second nature', and there is no better place than the tinkling river Granta that runs through our village like a ribbon of silk to do just that!

Listening to the natural world through a kind of spiritual contemplation can hardly fail to fascinate and is probably some hand-me-down consciousness from our ancestors! The speed of the fresh water shrimps or the sharpness of spines on the sticklebacks are words of profound importance to those who wish to read the whole and coded story of our natural

came feet first, scooping something alive out of the grass.

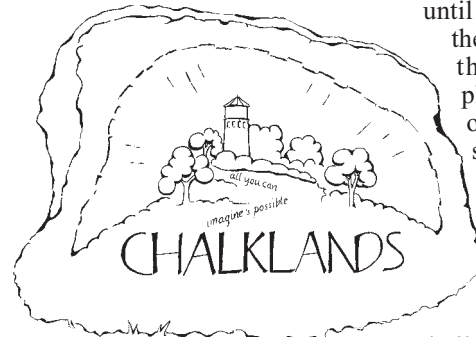
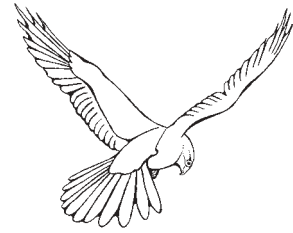
Later, Linda Richardson unrolled a bag full of pristine chisels and handed me one together with a small brass hammer! "There you go" she said after giving the tool a few gentle rubs upon a diamond pad, and we both began chipping away in unison. It must have sounded like the firing of a gatling gun, but as we tired the chip-chip-chip resembled that of a thrush smashing a snail shell upon a stone anvil. All around us were blackbirds reaping a good harvest of worms and next morning a few remains of snail shells had been left upon the Clipsham rock.

Unbeknown to all but five until now, buried within the deep foundations of the stone has been placed a small painting of a local view with a short message to a future generation.

Judging by recent news, some have forgotten to remember the Alamo even on the fourth of July. It

was built originally as a school to teach, among other trades, stone masonry. Jim Bowie did in fact deliver the orders for the destruction of the Alamo although nobody carried them out.

However, upon our stone are carved the words 'All you can imagine is possible' just in case we forget to defend what sustains our fellow creatures, our lives within our green and pleasant village.



The kestrel *Falco tinnunculus* hovered twenty or so feet in the air with quivering wings and beady eyes fixed on some quarry. An ability to remain steady, even in blustery weather has given rise to the kestrel also being known as a 'windhover'. Suddenly the wide tail closed and with wings folded he dived. A flip and a turn almost too fast for our busy brains to process accurately he

CAUGHT SNAPPING IN THE BOTANIC GARDENS



Members of Linton camera club at the Botanic gardens
Picture by Roger Lapwood

AFTER a wet and windy week six members of the camera club went to the Botanic gardens for our monthly away meeting. The Cambridge University Botanic Gardens was established by Professor JS Henlow on land acquired by the University in 1831 to provide for teaching and research. It replaced a much smaller garden of five acres, which had existed in the city centre since 1762.

The present garden was opened in 1846 and holds a plant collection comprising about 8,000 different species set in landscape of 33 acres.

The many features include a rock garden displaying alpine

plants, autumn and winter gardens, tropical rainforest and seasonal displays in the glass-houses, historic systematic beds, which were a little battered by the high winds that week, a scented garden, and the finest collection of trees in the East of England.

It is a highly recommended place to visit, and so close to Linton. The next awayday will be to the Shuttleworth Collection and Swiss Gardens at Old Warden Biggleswade, departing from Coles Lane car park at 9.30am Sunday 8th August.

New members welcome; for further details see our website at www.camclub.info

Len Smith

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

- S/1264/04/F M^r & M^s Baker, 42 Symonds Lane, Linton. Extension.
- S/1290/04/CM Cambs CC & Governors of LVC, Cambridge Road, Linton. 1 x 5 bay mobile building to provide changing room facilities until completion of sports centre redevelopment in September 2005.
- S/1297/04/LB M^r & M^s Reimann, Emson's Farmhouse, 18 Bartlow Road, Linton. Alterations - replacement of beam & strengthening of wall in basement of stair tower & construction of brick extension for porch & shower room. New dwarf wall & steps.
- S/1298/04/F M^r & M^s Reimann, Emson's Farmhouse, 18 Bartlow Road, Linton. Extension.
- S/1334/04/LB Greene King Pub. Partners, The Dog & Duck, 63 High Street, Linton. Alterations - replacement of areas of timber frame in restaurant (retrospective) & injection of timber treatment for eradication of death watch beetle in bedroom 1.
- S/1366/04/LB Governors of LVC, Cambridge Road, Linton. Alterations and refurbishment of girl's & boy's toilets to provide additional disabled toilet facilities for staff.
- S/1373/04/F M^r & M^s P Herbert, 13 Bartlow Road, Linton. Extension.

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THE LINTON NEWS

Next Publication Date 6th September 2004

DEADLINES for both ADVERTS and NEWS ITEMS
Friday 20th August 2004

ITEMS FOR THE EDITOR

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

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VIEW FROM THE CHAIR

Parish Council Matters

WE HAVE lost space this month due to the number of adverts, showing how healthy our local economy is. However, do we really need another 18,000 houses in the area (probably based around Abington), or are we creating the slums of the future when the biotech boom lapses? I have seen this before, in my native Durham, with the death of heavy industry.

We might be wary of the developments at Stansted, but the aircraft from the Duxford air show were a reminder of past bravery and glory. Linton was honoured by a jet fighter, which wiggled its wings over us! Then, we were on our terrace as all the veteran planes passed directly above us – our own fly past. I hope our appreciative waving was noticed. Bill Barnett gave a fine talk at the last ACE's meeting on his life in the police force and the changes he has seen. Frequent mutterings of agreement showed that that form of law enforcement is much missed. The respect and proper behaviour that resulted seems a far cry from what we see today.

The lessons of history are there to be learned, not repeated. Not all change is for the better; the planners should realise this and listen to the experienced local voice. Perhaps we have no alternative but to be like Voltaire and simply tend our own gardens. There is at least some satisfaction to be had in that. Perhaps. But if we do, we can be sure that the concrete and asphalt world will keep expanding all around us; more traffic, more crime and ever fewer police. If we don't say no, and mean it, the garden won't be worth sitting in. Enid Bald

RECYCLING IN LINTON SET TO EXPAND



COLES LANE CAR PARK RECYCLING CENTRE - AT PRESENT

THE RECENT changes to rubbish collection and recycling in Linton has, on the whole, been a huge success. We have helped our District Council go from one of the worst recycling areas in the country to one of the best! South Cambs District Council has recently reported that 40% of all household refuse is now being recycled. Quite an achievement. But.... And there is always a 'but'..... we could do even better.

Do you, like me, find that

your black wheelie bin is full of plastic? Well, Linton has been chosen as one of only 16 sites in the District to have its own 'plastic' recycling bank and it should be in place by September. More information as to exactly what types of plastic can be recycled will be available in the next issue of the South Cambs magazine due out in September.

For the really keen recycler's and the technically minded, you could start checking now. The numbers to look out for, usually printed on the bottom of any containers, are POET/1, HDPE/2 and PVC/3. This should mean that plastic milk bottles, fizzy drinks and even some food wrappings will be able to be recycled. In order to get the maximum use out of the bank, it would be helpful if everyone could 'crush' their bottles down as small as possible before bringing them to the bank.

The new plastics bank will be positioned in the public car park off Coles Lane. As you

can imagine it will be quite large and will still need to be emptied much more frequently than the other banks currently housed there.

SCDC are organising for it to be emptied up to three times a week.

It is a clear indication of how well Linton has adapted to the recent changes that, despite the green wheelie bins and green boxes that every household should have, the recycling banks in the Coles Lane car park are still well used. These banks, currently for waste paper, cans, glass and clothing, have been in the process of being moved from the east die of the car park to the western edge. This is to afford more space, for the plastics bank, without losing car parking spaces, and to ease the emptying process for the large lorries. So if you have visited the car park area recently and thought the banks had gone..... Not so! Just moved.

If you are having any problems with your rubbish collec-

tion – i.e. lack of correct bins or boxes, not sure which bin to put out, or need advice on what goes where? Please contact either Gill or Dawn at the Parish office (contact number and email address at bottom of page overleaf) or indeed, contact SCDC direct on 08450450500.

If you have a specific complaint you can also contact your local District Councillor, Joan Smith, who has volunteered to deal with any problems.

Happy recycling!

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

KNOW YOUR PARISH COUNCIL STAFF

Village Custodian - COLIN TOFTS

COLIN HAS worked for the Council for seven years now. This is becoming a family tradition, helping to keep the village streets clean and tidy, following in his father Jack's footsteps who also did the job for many years. Colin is employed for two hours a day, primarily to sweep the High Street, but can often be found in other areas as the need arises. He is particularly busy when the leaves are falling, a somewhat thankless task, but manages this with a smile and willing attitude. He is responsible for collecting the bagged rubbish from the Recreation Ground and has also recently taken on extra duties in the village cemetery, keeping the pathways clean and tidy and helping in general to ensure this area is looking its best.

Colin says he enjoys his work, as it gives him the opportunity to chat to people as he goes about his daily routine. It keeps him fit and he particularly enjoys working outdoors in the fresh air.

In his own time Colin has a passion for his garden, spending much of his spare time there.

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Council minutes council minutes council minutes council minutes council minutes

THIRTEEN Councillors attended the meeting held on Thursday 1st July, 2004 at 8pm.

The minutes of the previous meeting duly agreed, C^{llr} Batchelor reported with regard youth problems identified at Copperfields in Linton. A meeting had been held with senior police officers which had also been attended by C^{llr} Hickford, and it had now been agreed to proceed with a 'Section 30' order for the area. It was now essential to obtain District Council approval and backing. C^{llr} Batchelor agreed to keep Council updated. The Chairman thanked C^{llr} Batchelor for his efforts in this respect.

The Planning and Finance minutes were considered with no queries.

In the reports from Coordinators: C^{llr} Kenyon noted that weeds in the river had been cut back and 'dumped' on the river bank and the willow tree close to the recreation ground gates looked 'ill'. She also reported that there had been further problems with scooters and mopeds being driven on the grass. The Chairman thanked C^{llr} Kenyon for her report and noted that Linton Granta Cricket Club was seeking new players.



It was queried when the new Youth Shelter was to be erected. The Clerk reported it was a 'one-day' installation during week commencing 2nd August.

There was no specific report for the Cemetery but C^{llr} Alper reported that the surface of Back Road in general was extremely poor, but outside the Cemetery gates it was appalling. The Clerk was to pass this on to CC/Highways.

C^{llr} Rossiter reported that the recent article in Parish Matters regarding possible changes to some footpaths had been responded to by Hadstock PC. She now proposed to consult in the same way regarding the other small changes being pro-

posed. Once the consultation had taken place it would be time to organise another local meeting to discuss the way forward. The Clerk was to organise this. C^{llr} Rossiter then reported further with regard the questionnaire mentioned at the last meeting. Discussion took place and it was agreed that C^{llr} Alper would assist by completing the section for business users and C^{llr} Rossiter would seek the assistance of the proprietors of the Dog and Duck. The Clerk then reported on a message from John Copper, Parish Paths Officer at CCC, regarding the erection of a gate across Hollow Road (FP No.7) in that he was now in discussion with the landowner regarding the maintenance of a pedestrian right of way. A number of residents had recently expressed concern over this gate.

The payments due list was circulated. It was agreed the payments listed would be made with Cllrs Cox and Gore signing the cheques.

Councillors were then given an update on the County Council planning application for the Special Needs School at LVC. C^{llr} Urwin reported that, further to the decision taken by Council at the last meeting to continue to object to certain aspects of this application, a letter of concern with associated documents had now been taken by hand to the government department GoEast who would have the final decision, known as a Directions Decision. The letter had detailed information regarding Council's concerns over procedural issues and land usage, and included photographs, some provided by M^r Crofts. This had involved a considerable amount of work over last weekend involving C^{llr}'s Gore, Bald, Urwin, M^r Crofts and the Clerk. GoEast now had until 7th July for this decision. Council had requested notification of the decision. The Chairman thanked all concerned for their efforts, including residents who had taken time to organise the relevant photographs.

Council then considered the Annual Return, which included the accounts for the year ended 31st March 2004. It was noted these had been reviewed by the Independent Internal Auditor and signed off accordingly. The Clerk read out the Statement of Assurance. All Councillors had receipt of a copy of the accounts. The Annual Return had been completed and verified. Discussion took place regarding this and as a result C^{llr} Alper proposed that the Annual Return and Statement of Assurance be signed off by the Chairman. This was seconded by C^{llr} Cox and agreed unanimously by the meeting.

Councillors were then due

to consider the formal adoption of the Churchyard. However, C^{llr} Gore reported that information required for deliberation of this item was not yet to hand. As a result it was agreed this item would be deferred to the next meeting.

The Correspondence list was then reviewed. Of particular interest:-

The agenda for the next CCC Area Joint Committee meeting on Transport - it was noted that this meeting had now been held and a full report would be brought to the next Council Meeting.

There had been a letter of



concern from a resident regarding the Recreation ground gates. Discussion took place regarding the current problems. C^{llr} Potter advised they were repairable with assistance. C^{llr} Cox volunteered his assistance. It was also noted that quotations for varying treatments of replacement gates had recently been chosen from the Wish List and the Clerk was working on this with results to come back to Council in due course. During discussion it was noted there had been increased parking, and associated problems due to this, recently. As a result of discussion it was agreed the Clerk would write to LGCC and enquire as to source of problem.

Councillors then noted an advertisement for a Speed Gun similar to those used by the Police. Discussion took place regarding the potential usage of one of these Guns. It was agreed that the Clerk would

investigate the cost.

Council noted a reply from M^r Impey regarding the lack of a fence between his property and the Recreation Ground. M^r Impey's response was 1.5 pages but had not actually stated when the fence would be replaced. The Clerk was to write again seeking this particular answer.

A letter had been received from Foxton PC inviting a representative to a meeting at South Cambs District Council headquarters, regarding the government's proposal for 18,000 houses, possibly in Abington. The Chairman vol-



egory. Well done Linton!

The Chairman further reported that Saturday 3rd July would see the unveiling of the Chalklands Art work. All welcome to attend.

C^{llr} Cox queried what feedback had been received regarding the replacement Police officer for the village. C^{llr} Hickford reported that a meeting had been held recently within the Force to seek a replacement but no further news was available at this time.

C^{llr} Rossiter reported attendance at the recent CALC meeting during which items for the agenda for the forthcoming AGM were sought. She had suggested 'Speed Limits within the County'.

C^{llr} Cox reported the Chairman had sight of the mink along the river bank recently and that he had noted crayfish (American variety) in the river. Discussion took place regarding the mink and it was agreed that this Council had no objection to traps being set for this creature which was currently wreaking havoc amongst the baby ducklings, voles and shrews.

C^{llr} Cornell reported having noted a newspaper article regarding police speed checks and where they would occur. Throughout the Sawston Sector, it appeared that every village except Linton was mentioned. It was agreed the Clerk would write seeking confirmation that Linton would indeed be on the list.

The meeting closed at 21.05.

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FULL COUNCIL
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