



Issue No. 37
July 2009

How **YOUR** Council is
spending **YOUR** money.
News of Council Meetings
and events to come in
YOUR village in a
Quarterly Newsletter

The POST

Litlington Fayre *Saturday 11th July*

You will already have received a flyer promoting the Village Fayre from our main sponsor. Your programme for this annual village event should be delivered with this newsletter. The committee has planned an afternoon of activities and attractions which should appeal to all ages. Please come along and support. Because organisations retain 80% of their takings, it is a requirement that they provide helpers to set up and remove equipment. We shall meet at the village hall at 9.00am to load up trestles etc. If anyone else would be willing to help in this or any other way, please contact Sue Jenkins on 01763-852974 or David Sharp on 01763-852425.

Litlington Village *Produce Show* *Saturday 5th September*

Litlington Village Produce Show

Carolyn Richardson

Please put the date in your diary: Saturday 5th September. We would love to see a bumper level of entries for this year — all of you who enjoy gardening, cooking and crafts, come and share your produce with the village at this friendly annual event. A programme of classes will be delivered to everyone in Litlington in July/early August to give you time to enjoy preparing your entries. There are fun classes for children to involve all the family.

For more information meantime, please contact Carolyn Richardson on 01763-852440.

Litlington Village Fayre — Cake Stall

Gwen Biles

Audrey Newman and Gwen Biles will be running the cakes and preserves stall. May we please ask for your support again this year? Donations of cakes, preserves, produce etc.: either on the day (11th July), or contact Audrey on 01763-852385 or Gwen on 01763-852533 to collect. Many thanks.

Letter from the Chair

Lynda Murphy

Welcome to another edition of the Parish Post and the start of the New Year in the Parish. There are several projects being worked on at the moment that we hope many people will find very useful. Soon we are going to have a re-vamped web-site for the village that we will be able to post items of interest on. Thanks should go to Mr Goldman for creating the original web-site and for recently transferring it to the care of Cllr Jones. Another announcement will be made when Cllr Jones has accomplished the plans he has for the site.

Following on from the decision to review the storage and safekeeping of the older Parish Records, an appointment has been made with the County Council at Shire Hall to have the Enclosure map scanned. The finished record will be in colour and held on disc by the Parish Council. Once the disc has been obtained it will be possible to have the map printed. Parishioners who are interested will be able to order a copy for themselves when the Parish Council places a printing order. Once the new Library has been opened later in the year, the archives will be going to Shire Hall to be stored in a suitable environment.

There is much to look forward to in the coming months, including the Village Fayre and the Litlington Produce show. Information about these are in this Parish Post. There will be another Parish Path walk later in the season.

Recreation Centre

David Sharp (Chair)

At the Annual General Meeting of the Recreation Centre all existing members were re-elected with the addition of Gordon Stalker. The committee agreed to ask the Parish Council's permission to retain the football pitch nearest the road and to create two football pitches behind that pitch. One pitch would be 95m x 55m (suitable for under 13s to adult) and the other a training pitch of 73m x 45.5m (suitable for under 11s to adult and 9 v. 9). This could be achieved by altering the layout so that the new pitches would be at right angles to the full-sized pitch.

New goalposts would be required for each of the three pitches, as the existing ones are not up to standard. It is our intention to apply to the Football Foundation for grant funding of 50% of the cost. The other 50% would be divided between Litlington Athletic FC, Melbourn Dynamos FC and the Litlington Recreation Centre. The 5-a-side goal posts would be relocated. The Committee would like to improve the maintenance of the pitches in order to sustain a suitable playing surface throughout the season.

The Recreation Centre Committee is looking for one or two members of the public who would have an interest in being involved with running the Centre and bringing new ideas forward to help on the Committee. Perhaps you are new to the village or have young children; perhaps you have an interest in a particular sport. If you think you could volunteer to do this worthwhile job, please contact a member of the Parish Council.

Litlington Indoor Carpet Bowls Club

Marge Baker

Litlington Indoor Carpet Bowls Club is a small and thriving club established in May 1993. We have just held our Annual General Meeting, and are looking for new members. The Club meets weekly in the Village Hall at 7:30pm on Wednesday evenings throughout the year, except for August when we have a month's break. The Club is always pleased to see anyone who is interested to come and look and try their hand. The first evening is free to see if you enjoy it.

The Club belongs to the South Cambs League and plays regular fixtures. We also arrange friendlies, and have won trophies. Each year we hold a tournament with local teams.

There is an opportunity to be part of a team which brings satisfaction for the achievements won. There is also a chance to socialize and make new friends and meet other villagers and other people from the area. The Club is open to anyone from the village and surrounding area. Details can be obtained from the Club Captain, Mr G. Parrish (01763-853147).

Litlington Fun Run

Peter Matthews

Many thanks to all those athletic people who turned up and entered the inaugural Litlington Fun Run on the 10th May. 36 people attended, along with a number of their four-legged companions. The weather was perfect and we raised £97.30. This will be divided equally between St Catherine's Church and the Congregational Church.

Litlington Website (www.litlington.org.uk)

Nick Jones

Responsibility for development and maintenance of the village website has been transferred from Nick Goldman to Cllr Nick Jones. A huge thanks goes to Mr Goldman for developing the site to its current state. Cllr Jones intends to maintain the existing site in the short term, with a view to a more radical reform in due course. Any suggestions for content of the village site should be referred to Cllr Jones who can be contacted on 01763-852037 (or e-mail nickbrynjones@hotmail.com).

Receiving the Litlington Post by E-Mail

Nick Goldman

If you would like to receive the Litlington Post by e-mail in future, please send a message to Nick Goldman at goldman.nick@gmail.com. Don't worry, you will still get a printed copy for the foreseeable future!

Townlands Charity

David Sharp

The Trustees of The Townlands Charity are responsible for the 7 acre field on Royston Road close to the Limlow bungalow. This land was given to the village to be used as allotments. If anyone would like an allotment or any current allotment holder wishes to give up the tenancy, please inform Sally Walmesley, the Parish Clerk, before September 1st. The rent money from this land is given to households with a person of 65 years or over at Christmas.

Parking Within the Village

Lynda Murphy

A point was raised at the Annual Parish Meeting that there have been several occurrences of vehicles being parked half onto the pavement in certain areas of the village. Vehicles parked in this manner are causing a problem to pedestrians; often there is insufficient room left on the pavement to pass by in safety. Please be mindful of the needs of others when parking in the village. Thank you.

Speedwatch Scheme

Alan Biles

Further to my article in the March 2009 issue, more villages have joined the scheme and are operational. Others have applied or shown an interest, and will be trained in the use and application of the speed detector equipment. The police have applied for further sets of equipment in order that each neighbourhood area has its own set.

In the last three months the volunteers from Bassingbourn, Whaddon and Great Chishill have joined the scheme and are operational. The feedback is encouraging and Inspector Chris Savage of Cambs Police feels the scheme is making an impact and will gather pace.

In Whaddon alone during the month of April, 1287 vehicles had their speed checked with 190 recorded at speeds of 43MPH plus. Of these 190, 73 were exceeding 47MPH and police have sent letters to the registered owners of the vehicles. As the scheme progresses, the police will introduce enforcement action against persistent offenders and those driving at ultra high speed.

The police assure us that Speedwatch is not intended to replace their own speed checks. These will continue on a scheduled or targeted basis, even though Cambs Police's 'high visibility' policy (not mandatory) results in an extremely low number of penalty points or prosecutions. Here is where Speedwatch can make a difference. If the residents of Litlington feel the need for Speedwatch, then volunteers are needed — up to six or more in order to spread the load and give flexibility. Volunteers may opt not to operate in their own village or immediate locality.

So, once again, if you think Speedwatch is a good idea and an opportunity to do something to reduce speeding in our villages, you may wish to find out more about becoming a volunteer by telephoning Jan Dean on 0845-456 4564 (ext. 7113498) or e-mailing jan.dean@cambs.pnn.police.uk. Or you can call Alan Biles on 01763-852533.

Mordens Bus Service

Lynda Murphy

Would anyone be interested in using a weekly bus service from the village to Baldock, Letchworth and Hitchin? The proposed service would be direct after picking up passengers from the villages. It would pass through Litlington at 09:20 on Tuesday — market day in Hitchin — and return from Hitchin at 13:00. Please let a member of the Parish Council know if you would use this service.

Dog Fouling

Lynda Murphy

The Parish Council has received some complaints about dog fouling recently. Please can dog owners remember to clear up after their pets when on public areas. A leaflet has been enclosed highlighting the regulations that apply to dog fouling in public places.

As a special request, please can dog owners remember to clear up after their dogs when they are at the Clunch Pit? Families with small children use the area for picnics and recreation; dog mess is a hazard for them!

Charity Bags

Lynda Murphy

There has been a large number of charity bags posted in the village recently, which has caused concern to some people. To identify a reputable company the bag should have a registered charity number printed on it. If you are in any doubt about the company asking for goods the safest thing to do is to discard the bag.

St Catherine's Church Floodlights

Pam Sharp

Jan 12 th	In memory of Brian Reed RIP (omission)
Mar 12 th	Birthday of Dudley Unsworth RIP
Mar 13 th	Anniversary of the death of William John Lawrence RIP
Mar 16 th	In memory of Miss Kyle (former headteacher of Litlington School) RIP
Mar 17 th	Birthday of aunt and nephew Eileen Huffer and Sean Williams
Mar 18 th	In memory of Jeff Bonnett RIP on the first anniversary of his death
Mar 31 st	In memory of Fred Barnes RIP on the anniversary of his death
Apr 2 nd	In memory of Emma Maling RIP
Apr 5 th	Anniversary of the death of Derrick Jackson RIP
Apr 9 th	Maundy Thursday: in memory of Frank Bailey RIP on the 11 th anniversary of his death (the first time that Maundy Thursday has fallen on April 9th since Frank's death in 1998)
Apr 23 rd	St George's Day
May 1 st	Birthday of Don Williams RIP
May 30 th	Wedding anniversary of John Lawrence RIP and Shirley Lawrence
Jun 2 nd	In memory of William (Bill) Thompson RIP on the first anniversary of his death

If you would like the lights switched on, please contact Brenda Bailey (01763-853401) or Pam Sharp (01763-852425). The cost is £5.

Thank you to those Litlington residents who supported me in the recent elections. It has been a pleasure for me to work with the Parish Councillors and residents over the last few years finding solutions and funding for local problems. Current issues clearly include lack of sensible Broadband speeds and the NATS proposed changes. It is now necessary to raise the profile of these issues in particular and I will work with Andrew Lansley, our local MP, to pile on the pressure.

Footpath and cycleway to Bassingbourn — I can confirm that I have arranged a site meeting with the County Cycleways Officer to discuss improvements and the associated funding. The meeting will take place on Thursday 2nd July. The process to achieve funding will take time.

Bus transport to Bassingbourn for school children in the village — While discussions about the footpath/cycle path and its funding continue I am in contact with the County Education Transport Officer to see if we can find a way for Litlington children to use the existing bus service through the village.

War Torn Skies

Julian Evan-Hart

I am currently engaged on a detailed history of the efforts and effects of the Luftwaffe's Nightfighter attacks over Cambridgeshire by their unit NJG2, for possible publication. This includes photographs of artefacts such as locally found German cannon shell casings, crash sites and coverage of all known incidents, as well as never-before published photographs of some of the German pilots that took part. I have already covered this in part in my latest book, 'War Torn Skies Cambridgeshire', but am now embarking on more detailed coverage.

I was wondering if you know of anybody who lives/lived in Litlington during the war and who may remember Wellington bomber R3227 that crashed near to Abington Pigotts in 1941. This particular aircraft was shot down by Oberleutnant Struning in a Junkers 88 C4, on the night of 7th May 1941. I'm looking to obtain an eye-witness account from someone who may have heard/seen the combat or who went to see the crashed Wellington next day. All sources will of course be fully credited and also again if the research is published. Persons wishing for a copy of rough research layout to date are most welcome but please remember it is subject to copyright laws at the present time.

Julian Evan-Hart (tel: 01438-213085; j.evenhart@ntlworld.com).

Your Parish Councillors

Marjorie Baker	01763-852491	Lynda Murphy	01763-852033
Alan Biles	01763-852533	Alan Pipe	01763-852885
Debbie Brown	01763-852002	David Sharp	01763-852425
Steve Claydon	01763-853760	Linda Williams	01763-852809
Nick Jones	01763-852037		

Linda Oliver — County Councillor Bassingbourn Division — 01767-650430
email: linda.oliver@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Other Useful Numbers (01763- numbers unless otherwise stated)

Sally Walmsley	Clerk to the Council	852137
Sue Jenkins	Church Warden	852974
Gordon Head	Neighbourhood Watch	852934
Linda Williams	Village Hall Booking Clerk	852809
Tina Claydon	Recreation Centre Booking Clerk	853760
Gwen Biles	The Chapel (Secretary)	852533
Pamela Sharp	Evergreens	852425
Rosy Taylor	Playschool	852762
Lorraine Baker	Toy Library (Secretary)	852414
Vera Swallow	Litlington Amateur Dramatics Society	222538
Vera Webster	Badminton Club (Treasurer)	241022
James Evans	Football Club (Secretary)	07834-813854
Cathy Smith	L.J.'s (7 to 10yrs. Youth Club)	853997
Jonathan Burgess	L.J.'s Plus (10 to 13yrs. Youth Club)	853365
Sylvia Harris	Gardening Club	852107
Kumar Balani	Post Office / Shop	852221
	The Crown Public House	853859
	Bassingbourn Village College	242344
	Bassingbourn Primary School	242460
	Steeple Morden School	852474
	Royston Library	243292
	Bassingbourn Surgery	241424
	Ashwell Surgery	01462-742891
	Police, Cambridge H.Q.	01223-358966

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