



The Abingtons and Hildersham News



www.theabingtons.org.uk

September 2020



Photo by Sam Harvey

On Thursday 13 August this E bike was delivered to Great Abington, funded by the South Cambridgeshire Zero Carbon Communities Grant (see page 3)

Letter from the Editor

August – what a month. Several days of heatwave with temperatures over 30°C and high humidity. Severe stress and anxiety for students because of uncertainty about A-level and GCSE grades awarded without the usual examinations. Overseas holidays joyfully planned by some, as lockdown restrictions were eased, only to find that upsurges in virus infection led to travellers facing 14 days quarantine on return to the UK. As more people decide to return to work and to take advantage of freedom to resume leisure pursuits, and as children return to school it is certain that there will be further localised outbreaks of Covid-19. But levels of infection have been much reduced, many support services are in place, and we know what to do to safeguard ourselves and other, more vulnerable, people from the virus. It is encouraging to see how many people are wearing face masks, maintaining social distances, sanitising hands and behaving very responsibly. The Parish Nurse, Love Abington and the Fire and Rescue Service all emphasise the need for us to continue to adopt this new pattern of behaviour (pages 4, 6, 10). Granta Medical has supplied details of the programme of flu injections (page 9). There is a change in the arrangement for collecting prescriptions (page 8).

Church congregations (to a maximum of 30, socially distanced) have enjoyed their first outdoor services, although the Great Abington service was held in torrential rain! An outdoor funeral was held for Howard Davies, a true gentleman whose unassuming manner belied his stature as a professional giant in developing the internet (page 5).

The reports from the Councils reflect increasing activity with road works on the A1307 some of it involving overnight closure of the road (page 8). Plans to develop the Linton Greenway seem to have stopped short of delivering expected benefits and we should forcefully support the original scheme (page 14). There is new house building in progress to the north of Linton Road and information on ways to make our houses ECO homes. Thanks to a special SCDC grant we have an e-bike to borrow and try out (pages 11, 13-17, cover photo).

During lockdown we have enjoyed peace and quiet as road and air traffic ceased. In early August, 60 motor bikers may have startled the residents of Little Abington as they revved up. They were on a charitable fundraising trip and delighted to be allowed to start and end it in Little Abington. Page 12 explains more.

Let us look forward in September to achieving careful and safe enjoyment of further freedom from lockdown and to steady economic progress.

Valerie Silvey

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Articles for the October 2020 edition of *The Abingtons and Hildersham News* should be sent to the editor no later than Tuesday 15 September 2020 at news@theabingtons.org.uk. Photos welcome.

Cover photo. Present from left to right: Sean Moroney (Cambridge Electric Transport), Geoff Harvey (SCDC), Bernie Talbot (GAPC), Henry Batchelor (CCC), with the e-bike Pippa Heylings (SCDC)

From the Seven Churches

Recently we've experienced many things in life in a new way, and this will continue into the Autumn. My children return to their primary school this month and it will be unlike any other experience of school they've had to date. Many workplaces have been transformed to try and protect staff and any customers or clients from Covid-19. Our church services now include regular Sunday morning zoom services and open-air worship, as well as services inside churches with face-masks and social distancing – something we could not have imagined at the beginning of the year! So many things in our lives are being experienced again as if for the first time.

Re-imagining the way we do and see things, however, can be both challenging and refreshing. It can be a blessing when we don't take for granted our family, friends, neighbours, local businesses or school. This may lead to a renewed appreciation of people and places; perhaps a reminder to renew old acquaintances, to thank those who care for us, teach our children or support community life.

The Bible often speaks eloquently of the need, as St Paul says, to "be transformed by the renewing of your minds". The prophet Isaiah invites people to see this renewal as a response to divine action: "I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?" In every testing time, the people of God are called to renew their vision and deepen their trust in God.

This need to refresh the way we perceive things and renew our language of gratitude and wonder is constant. In T S Eliot's *Little Gidding*, the last poem in his *Four Quartets*, he puts it like this:

*We shall not cease from exploration
And the end of all our exploring
Will be to arrive where we started
And know the place for the first time.*

If we trust in God, who in Christ makes all things new, we may also renew our experience of God's grace. Again, turning to the prophet Isaiah, we remember in all these changes the source of our strength and hope: "those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint".

Revd Iain McColl

Granta Vale Ministry Team

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News from the Pews

The difficult circumstances concerning our churches continue throughout the pandemic, and indeed look to continue for some time, so please refer to the back page for details of services throughout September.

The first 'Outdoor Service' during August was held in Great Abington Churchyard, an afternoon that will surely be remembered. Just as the service began the heavens opened. We had torrential rain along with thunder and lightning. Jeanine bravely carried on with the service which, in retrospect, was a most poignant service and sermon taken from the Gospel reading Matthew 15: 21-28, with the emphasis on faith and courage. We have all suffered difficult times during the last few months, rain and thunder was nothing in comparison.

Please do continue to support your church during these difficult times.

Funeral

The funeral of Howard Edmundson Davies took place at Little Abington Church on Tuesday 4 August. This was our first full outdoor funeral service where only 30 mourners were allowed to be present. Howard was churchwarden in Little Abington Church until ill health prevented further service. He was instrumental in the Chaplin project at Great Abington Church where his conscientious eye for detail was highly appreciated. He will be sorely missed by his family, friends and neighbours.

Our thoughts and prayers are with his wife Judy and daughters Claire and Jacqui.

Anne Hall

Howard Davies

Aged 81, Howard Davies died at home in Little Abington, his home for 25 years. Always determined to study at Oxford, he was awarded a scholarship to study engineering at Balliol College. He went on to obtain a doctorate combining engineering and computing, a very new subject in 1960. Aged 25, now married, he moved to Geneva, Switzerland, as scientific programmer for CERN, the European Centre for Nuclear Research. He became group leader of CerNNet but, aged 38, decided to move back to Britain. Appointed Director of the IT Centre at Exeter University he became increasingly involved in UK and European networks. This led to his move to Cambridge in 1993 as joint director of Dante, an organisation which successfully set up academic research networks in Europe and beyond. In retirement he edited the book *A History of International Research Networking, by the people who made it happen*.

Baptised into the Anglican Church, it was only at the age of 70 that Howard was confirmed and he became a churchwarden in Little Abington, though his debilitating illness curtailed many of his activities. Previously, he had loved hiking and mountain climbing in the Alps and he was a keen skier, both on and off *piste*. Howard loved classical music, especially opera. He was a great family man and an excellent cook. Always unassuming, never complaining, always kind, helpful and honest, he will be greatly missed.

Judy Davies

The Davies family wish to give heartfelt thanks to the very many members of the church and the villages who have sent us very moving messages of sympathy and support, and also donations to Parkinson's UK. Thank you.

Pam Soanes

It is sad to record the death, at Addenbrooke's on 1 August, of Pam Soanes. Pam and her husband, David, lived in Abington for 20 years, leaving in 2008 to live near their daughter in Newmarket. Pam was editor of the *Abingtons and Hildersham News* for a few years and acquired a lifelong enjoyment of painting from her membership of the Art Group.

We offer our condolences to her family and friends.'

Love Abington Update

After six months of weathering the COVID pandemic, we have officially plummeted into the worst economic recession ever recorded in UK history. That is probably one of the bleakest sentences I have ever written to start an article. On the brighter side, the easing of lockdown will be a welcome relief to many who have financially been taken to the brink. It could be tempting to behaviourally slip back to the halcyon days before face masks and compulsive hand sanitiser were part of our daily life. But as my wonderful scientist friend keeps reminding me, the COVID 19 virus is still with us and nothing from a health perspective has really changed. We need to keep socially distanced and wash, wash, wash our hands!

Many in our community remain vulnerable to the virus. Many in our community are at risk of financial hardship. We are committed to ensure that everyone in the village knows that they are valued and loved. If you need company, advice, food, a listening ear, or a myriad of other things please remember you are not alone and do get in touch.

Telephone Listening Service

Our Listening Service continues to support people as they navigate our changing circumstances. This is a service available for everyone and we have noticed how important it has been for people in all sections of our community. A key value of Love Abington is for everyone to know that they are valued by others and our Listening Service is a way of showing that. If you would like to receive a confidential, friendly weekly call to help you as we journey together through the pandemic, please do give me a call and I can put you in touch with Rosemary Mead and our team. Call Jeanine 893 838.

Helping to stay Connected Online

We are delighted that several people have already benefited from this service. Some Abington residents are learning about the internet and the new mysterious world of Information Technology! Huge thanks to Pat for his vision and work in this area.

If you would like more information about options (including costs) to help an elderly relative to join in video calls, contact Love Abington. Loveabington@gmail.com Tel Jeanine 893 838

Abington Library

The library is based in the Social Club on Pampisford Road and provides a relaxed and welcoming environment. Social distancing is observed, and hand gel is available on entering the building. All books, Jigsaws, CD's etc will be quarantined for a week before being reissued. It is also possible to recycle inhalers here too.

Opening times:

Tuesdays 2pm to 4pm

Saturdays 10am to 12pm

This library will run in addition to the book sharing scheme in the Institute for those picking up prescriptions. Our 'Book Hutch' outside Little Abington Church is proving extremely popular too. You can help yourselves to books. The stock of books will be changed regularly and returns collected daily.

If you are currently shielding, we will be able to deliver to you. Please contact your street coordinator in the first instance.

Help with Food

In these uncertain times, circumstances in many households will be changing and we are keen to support you. So, if it is a challenge to access enough food please do get in touch. Contact one of us and we can arrange a delivery - Bernie (01223 892 647), Jeanine (01223 893 838) or David (01223 892 364).

Meet the new Coordinator for Love Abington

We are delighted at how many people have appreciated or benefited from Love Abington. Amaris and Charlotte have worked incredibly hard alongside Rosemary and I and shared their gifts and talents to ensure Love Abington's success. In the autumn I will be studying full time and Amaris will need to reduce her hours too. However, responding to the positive feedback we are keen to see Love Abington continue to develop for the benefit of the Community. We are delighted therefore to welcome the wonderful Julie Cooper to our team. It is such a blessing that Julie is willing to share her time and considerable gifts and talent to ensure Love Abington flourishes for the good of all as we journey ahead.

Stay Safe.

Every Blessing, Jeanine and the Love Abington Team. Xx

A message from the Parish Nurse

I do hope and pray that you have managed to keep hydrated and cool, in the hot days! Please remember to drink water and use fans to keep your temperature down. I always find that, if I really get unbearably hot, I put my feet in cool water during the day and at night cuddle a cold pack from the freezer wrapped in a tea towel. These tips may help you feel a little more comfortable!

Reflecting over the past few months I realise that these unprecedented times have also brought amazing blessings. We have seen communities in the seven villages I serve, rise up and support each other in wonderful ways. There have been a huge number of volunteers helping with shopping and delivering prescriptions. People have been so grateful, so on behalf of those receiving the help I want to take this opportunity to thank them all. It continues to be a blessing to work with you all for the benefit of each community.

I continue to work from home at present. I am telephoning a large number of people every day and am able to contact people new to the service as well. Many people are finding this a very valuable service and I am grateful that these calls are bringing some light into (for some) difficult and dark times. I will shortly be able to video call people as well, using the same system the surgery does, so if you have a smart phone I will be able to chat 'face to face', which will be lovely.

Of course it would be great if I could visit again. As a team, we have reflected on how best to do this in the weeks ahead. We need to continue to be vigilant and protect the most vulnerable. I will be taking all the necessary precautions and will be able to visit people at home 'in exceptional' circumstances and with a full risk assessment. As soon as the science shows I can visit more freely, I will be delighted to do so.

Please do not hesitate to call my mobile if you need any support, information, or a chat and I will endeavour to help wherever I can. You are all in my thoughts and prayers. God bless you all.

Claire, Parish Nurse

Prescriptions

As many of you will know, prescriptions from both Linton and Sawston Health Centre dispensaries have been distributed via the Abington Stores for many years. Volunteers collect from Linton and bring to Abington; Sawston deliver once a week. As a result of pressures on Abington Stores at the start of the Covid-19 crisis it was agreed that distribution sessions would be run from the Institute. These have happened on a Monday, Wednesday and Friday afternoon.

From 1 September some activities may be beginning again at the Institute and, as pressure on Abington Stores has eased a little, Mak and the team have agreed to resume distribution from the shop. Christine Talbot is in the process of reorganising the rota of volunteers so that collections from Linton can be five days a week, rather than three, to ease the pressure on the shop when big consignments arrive. If you are a user of the service you can also help by ensuring that, when you order a prescription, you collect it within a week or so. Space is limited at the shop and it is not helpful when people fail to collect their prescription for weeks and even months. In future, prescriptions that are not collected in a reasonable time will be returned to the dispensary.

Thank you – Christine and Bernie Talbot

Abington Post Office and Stores

The shop will be open as follows:

Monday to Saturday	8am to 7.30pm	Post Office 9am to 5pm
Sunday	8am to 3.30pm	Post Office Closed

Abington Stores offers an online ordering system with delivery and click & collect services. The shop is able to take payment for orders via the telephone. Please call the shop on 891 271 and have your payment card handy

A1307 Cambridge South East transport

Works at Babraham Research Campus roundabout and Babraham High Street Junction with overnight road closure from 1 September to 17 September

The Greater Cambridge Partnership and contractors Skanska are carrying out improvement works along the A1307 between the Babraham Research Campus roundabout, the junction with Babraham High Street and towards the A11 junction. The improvements will make it easier for those who use public transport, or active travel, such as cycling or walking, and will help make travel in the area safer and more sustainable.

To resurface the road, it will be necessary to close the A1307 overnight for 12 nights from Tuesday 1 September on weekday nights only. The A1307 will be closed in both directions between 8pm and 6am to all through traffic, except for residents who require access to properties within the A1307 closure, and to buses.

The A1307 will be closed in both directions between the Babraham Research Campus roundabout and the A1307/A11 Fourwentways interchange. For safety reasons, the side roads of Chalky Lane and High Street will also be closed. A fully signed diversion route will be in place via the A11, A505 and A1301 during the overnight closures between 8pm and 6am.

Please visit the project's webpage at www.greatercambridge.org.uk/A1307 . If you have any concerns during construction, please do get in touch with Skanska's project team on A1307schemes@skanska.co.uk .

(This is a shortened version of the Press Release on the subject. Ed.)

2020 Flu Clinics

In the wake of coronavirus, it is more important than ever to have your flu vaccination.

However, with Covid-19 comes the challenge as to how we vaccinate 10,000 Granta patients in a socially-distanced manner, to ensure the safety of our patients, our staff and our local community.

Duxford Imperial War Museum has very kindly agreed to help us and we will be holding “drive-through” flu clinics on **Saturday 3rd October** and **Saturday 17th October**. If you cannot get to these clinics please don't worry; we will make sure that the patients who can't attend or who cannot drive will be seen in smaller clinics at our surgeries. If you are housebound separate arrangements will be made for you.

Patients eligible for a free NHS flu vaccination include those patients who will be 65 years old before 31 March 2021, and those patients 6 months of age and up to and including 64 years of age if they fall into one or more of the “at risk” groups. Details of the “at risk” groups can be found on our website. If you are unsure if you are eligible for a free vaccination please feel free to ring us and we can let you know.

As you will have heard on the news, the government has now extended the flu programme to include everyone 50 years old and over, plus household members of shielded patients. However, NHS England wants us to prioritise the “at risk” patients first, and the new second cohort of patients will be vaccinated towards the end of the year. We will send out further details as soon as we have them.

Children aged 2 years old and 3 years old are automatically eligible to be vaccinated by us. These will be done in our surgeries.

Children from 4 years old to 11 years old will be vaccinated at school, unless they fall into an “at risk” category.

Appointment slots should be available to book from the end of August – keep an eye on our website for further details.

Please note that you MUST pre-book your flu appointment. Please do not just turn up on the day - you will be sent away.

If you should decide to stay on and visit the museum after your vaccination please be aware that you will have to pre-book tickets in advance through the IWM website www.iwm.org.uk/visits/iwm-duxford. **You will not be able to purchase tickets for the museum on the day.** We would like to say a massive thank you to Duxford Imperial War Museum for accommodating us in this fantastic community collaboration.

Sandra East, Granta Communications

GRANTA Pharmacy

YOU CAN NOW GET YOUR MEDICINES DELIVERED FOR FREE ...

... and you don't have to be a Granta patient!

For further information and to sign up for this great new service from your local community pharmacy simply call us on 01223 727530 or email us on capccg.grantadispensing@nhs.net (Please note that if you are ordering a repeat prescription please order 7 to 10 days before you are due to run out.)

We look forward to hearing from you.

Keep caring – Coronavirus hasn't gone away

While lockdown restrictions are gradually being lifted everyone needs to take action to help us all return to a more normal life. But the most important thing we can continue to do is to stay alert, control the virus, and, in doing so, keep people safe and help save lives.

Cambridgeshire Fire and Rescue Service is getting behind the local #KeepCaring campaign led by Cambridgeshire County Council and Peterborough City Council, and supported by partners. The campaign outlines ways that people can take care of themselves and each other, to help control the spread of coronavirus.

Here are some ways you can keep caring:

- Caring is keeping your distance - inside or outside
- Caring is being responsible - staying isolated if you think you've got symptoms, or been close to someone who has
- Caring is covering your face - even with no symptoms you might still spread virus
- Caring is washing your hands - regularly, when you enter or leave a new place.

We're also asking residents to keep caring by being fire safe at home, and on the roads when out and about:

- Caring is testing your smoke alarm – and reminding your loved ones to do the same.
- Caring is being careful in the kitchen – not getting distracted while you're cooking and keeping items well away from the hob.
- Caring is discarding your cigarettes responsibly – so you don't accidentally start a fire
- Caring is not having a bonfire – that could easily get out of control, putting you and others at risk.
- Caring is being a considerate driver – driving at the appropriate speed, not drinking or taking drugs if getting behind the wheel, making sure you and your passengers are wearing seatbelts and not using your phone while driving.

Help us help you, and keep caring.

Comprehensive advice on current government rules is available on the gov.uk website.

How 'what3words' can help 999 #KnowExactlyWhere

'what3words' has helped to locate nearly 4,000 incidents since it first started being used by emergency services. It has given every 3m square in the world a unique identifier made of 3 words - making the location of any emergency very easy to describe and share. For example ///tortoises.swarm.announce will take you to a precise location on Ben Nevis where, in February 2020, a group of hikers was rescued.

To locate, search or navigate to a what3words address, all you need is the free app. Make sure you have it downloaded on your device and know how to use it, to help save time, resource and lives.

For more information log on to www.cambsfire.gov.uk, follow us on social media or call 01480 444500.

Community Oil order

Rod will take orders for heating oil from 25 September to 1 October, with orders delivered 7 to 10 days later. Please provide Rod with the quantity of oil you require, your name, address, post code and telephone number. Please contact rodwillcox@hotmail.co.uk or phone 07767 686 351.

Welcome to Emerson Park

The new Emerson Park development by Laragh is set to bring 13 beautiful bespoke homes to the area, providing luxury living in a sustainable environment, just north of Linton Road on the edge of Great Abington. As an award-winning Cambridgeshire company, we pride ourselves on delivering high-quality homes for our region and Laragh has worked closely with the Parish Council to ensure that Emerson Park will blend naturally within its setting.



Emerson Park has been designed by local architect James Snell of Snell David to create high-specification homes with impressive eco-credentials, and we have appointed local company PR Build as our trusted contractor, having worked with them previously on a number of projects. Our Site Manager Andy Hall can be contacted on 07842 569 956.

Initial operations for the site will include cabins, car parking and hoarding, together with the construction of a new road junction, on-site roads, foundations and the installation of drainage. We will shortly commence works on a new electric supply from the substation adjacent to the Three Tuns, and our appointed service contractor Stormport will liaise with local homeowners and businesses.

For more information about Laragh Homes and Emerson Park, please visit www.laragh.co.uk .(See also page 14)

Open Eco Homes – Autumn Season

Has spending more time at home got you thinking about home improvement? The upcoming government Green Homes Grant offers homeowners and landlords grants up to £5,000 covering two-thirds of the cost of many home energy improvements.

Local charity, Cambridge Carbon Footprint, is offering free advice on how to renovate your home to make it more comfortable and energy efficient with their Open Eco Homes Autumn Season. After 10 years running live events, this year they're offering their home tours and talks online. There are 8 tours and 3 talks to choose from, running from September 14 to October 20. Details and registration at openecohomes.org/autumnseason.



Alana Sinclair, Manager

Government Green Homes Grant - This government scheme will launch at the end of September. Homeowners will be able to apply for vouchers to offset part of the cost of installing certain types of insulation, e.g. loft and cavity wall insulation, heat pump or solar heating panels. Beware of scammers making cold calls to check homeowner's eligibility for vouchers; they will not be available via cold calls. (Ed.)

Cambridgeshire Libraries - Revised Library@Home Service

The service is for anyone who usually relies heavily on reading books or listening to audiobooks AND who is housebound, shielding or isolating due to age or health conditions under the current COVID-19 Government guidelines. People accepted for this service will be contacted by a member of the Library@Home Team who will arrange a doorstep delivery of specially chosen books/audiobooks. Deliveries will be monthly (by prior arrangement) and previously loaned books/audiobooks will be picked up when new ones are delivered. Contact email - volunteers@cambridgeshire.gov.uk or phone 07442 022 926 or 07342 700 308.

Motorbike race for EACH charity- Little Abington Campsite chosen as charity motorbike event start place

A Cambridgeshire-based motorcycle group rode 250 miles to raise funds in aid of [East Anglia's Children's Hospice](#) during the first weekend of August.

On Saturday 1 August, the Suffolk Trail Riders completed a 260-mile round trip from the idyllic little village of Little Abington, Cambridgeshire, to the Norfolk coast of Hunstanton and back, raising an impressive **£5,000**.

The group of 60 bikers had the option to start their journey the night before by camping at Little Abington Campsite, nestled in the village. Abiding by the government's COVID-19 guidelines, the campsite was split into ten areas, where groups of six could camp separately. Spacious seating areas and controlled fire pits gave riders the room to meet new people and prepare their bikes ahead of the big day.

Keeping their distance, and in their groups, the riders set off. The pre-mapped and lawful routes use many of the countryside's green lanes, which are part of the public road network and travel through idyllic woodland and rocky riverbeds.

The money raised will help to fund care and support for children who have life-threatening conditions, making a difference to their lives and to those around them.

Colin Pountney, Suffolk Trail Riders chairman, comments: *'I'm incredibly thankful to those at Little Abington Campsite, who let us gather ahead of the event. Understandably, the pandemic has meant a lot of people haven't been able to socialise in a long time, so it was great to see small groups get together to bond over our love of bikes, and the local area. I want to thank everyone who has donated or helped the charity event in any way. Financially, charities have been some of the hardest hit by the current pandemic, so I'm sure EACH (East Anglia's Children's Hospice) will be pleased to receive the support.'*

Contact: For enquiries, please contact rachel.pountney@hotmail.co.uk

Village News on the website To see the News before a printed copy is available and to see the photographs in colour, go to www.theabingtons.org.uk/news and follow the link to the pdf for the month you want. For up-to-date news on the local impact of Covid-19 go to www.theabingtons.org.uk/news/2020/03/coronavirus-in-abington



County and District Council August report

Note from Councillors Henry Batchelor (CCC) and John Batchelor (SCDC)

A1307 Update

Work has started on a new crossing and upgrade of the roundabout at Babraham as well as alteration to the exit from Babraham High Street on to the A1307. This includes closing the right turn facility. This is a big job and is likely to continue through to the autumn. Also starting work soon will be alterations to the dual carriageway in preparation for installing average speed cameras and improvements to the Dean Road crossing. See page 8.

There have been workshops during July and August looking at specific schemes on the A1307. The schemes that drew the most concern were the proposed westbound bus lane at Linton and the loss of the rural 'hub' at Linton, but there is a chance this could be looked at later (also see page 14).

For more up to date detail go to GCP website <https://www.greatercambridge.org.uk/> or ask John, Henry or your Parish Council's representatives on the GCP.

They are also currently consulting on the access to the city from the East. Not directly affecting us on the A1307, but some of our constituents do access Cambridge from this direction, so do engage with the consultation - <https://consultcambs.uk.engagementhq.com/cambridge-eastern-access>

Shielded People

From August 1st the government relaxed the laws around shielded people. The County Council have made it clear that they are still offering support, physical and emotional, to people within this category. Please do still encourage people that need support to keep in contact with the Council, or Henry.

Library Services

Library services in Cambridgeshire have now re-opened, including the local branch in Linton. Please do start to support the service again.

Zero Carbon Communities Grant

Round 2 of the SCDC Zero Carbon Communities Grant is now open. This year the grant is focussing on three main themes – cycling, community buildings and tree planting and other nature-based initiatives. Applications are invited from parish councils and community groups. The total available is £100,000 with individual grants of £1,000 - £15,000. The scheme opened on Wednesday 1 July and the application deadline is 5pm Wednesday 30 September.

Rural Crime

It's been reported in national media that Cambridgeshire is the fourth highest county in England in terms of cost of rural crime on its police force. Living in the rural area that we do, it's clear that this is an issue locally. The District Council has a small budget to fight environmental issues, but the main body to deal with this is the police.

Henry and John Batchelor

Great Abington Parish Council

An Active Council

Parish Council Activities during Lockdown

Parish Council life is still operating remotely via Zoom meetings which will be advertised three days in advance on the Parish Council noticeboard and via the village website. Anyone wishing to put questions to the Parish Council should pass them to the Clerk at least 24 hours before the start of the meeting. Anyone wishing to observe the meeting should contact the Clerk at least 24 hours before the start of the meeting and they will be provided with a link to observe via the internet.

A1307/Linton Greenway

On 28 July Parish Councillors met with Greater Cambridge Partnership (www.greatercambridge.org.uk), Local Liaison Forum and consultants to discuss the section of Linton Greenway from Bourn Bridge Road to Linton. This is a scheme that could hugely benefit 'active travel' in our area as it has the potential to deliver safe cycle, pedestrian and equestrian routes from Linton to the southern boundary of Cambridge City, offering both commuters and leisure users a Covid-safe, pleasant, healthy and environmentally friendly way to explore the area or travel to work. It would link the resident and business communities of Hildersham and the Abingtons with each other and with Linton, opening up to cyclists, dog-walkers, horse-riders the possibility of much longer 'round trips' in the area and enabling safe cycling/walking for the LVC students in our communities. But Councillors and other stakeholders were disappointed to learn that the latest version of the scheme would not deliver a signalised crossing of the A1307 at Hildersham Cross, and, with no safe way of crossing the heavy flow of traffic that runs along the A1307, the Linton Greenway becomes unusable east of the Abingtons. However, this egregious scheme has not yet been finally decided. There is still time to **write to your MP** and demand that GCP deliver a usable greenway in line with recent government policy 'Active Travel England'. Your MPs are either Anthony Browne anthony.browne.mp@parliament.uk if you live in the Abingtons or Lucy Frazer for Hildersham residents lucy.frazer.mp@parliament.uk,

Construction work on Linton Road

Residents may have already noticed the new housing development on the north side of Linton Road, opposite Meadow Walk. Please be aware that in the coming weeks, works will begin to link the new development to the electricity substation behind The Three Tuns. The contractors will be excavating the trench in stages, 10-12m at a time, to minimise risks associated with an open trench of several hundred metres running along the highway.

The Parish Council is being consulted about the road name for the new development North of Linton Road. Various suggestions have been made but the Council would like to hear the views of parishioners before it makes its decision. Time is short so please email your ideas to bernie.talbot@btinternet.com by 7th September.

(See also page 11.)

E-bikes in the Abingtons

Riding an e-bike is a wonderful way of exercising and exploring the great outdoors with a little power assistance - like getting a gentle push on your back to speed you along or help you uphill. At the time of writing this scheme is nearly ready and should be fully functioning by the time this issue of the Village News goes to press.

Thanks to South Cambs. District Council's Zero Carbon Communities Grant, Great Abington Parish Council, with support from Little Abington Parish Council, can offer residents weekly trials of an e-bike, owned by Great Abington Parish Council, entirely free of charge. This is your chance to see if an e-bike will fit with your lifestyle either for commuting or for exploring the area.

Loans will run from Saturday morning to Saturday morning and the e-bike will be cleaned and sanitised for Covid-19 safety between loans. Please see announcements on posters around the village or the village website and Facebook page for more information. To book your week with the bike please email ebike@theabingtons.org.uk

Photo by Sam Harvey shows Cllr Pippa Heylings trying out the e-bike.

Planning

For more information on the applications below use the following reference:-

<https://www.scams.gov.uk/planning/view-or-comment-on-a-planning-application/>



Parish Council recommendations

20/02715/REM – land at 5 Chalky Road – Approval of matters reserved for access, appearance, landscaping, layout and scale following planning approval S/1233/18/FL Recommended approval.

20/02990/OUT – Land west of 40 South Road – Erection of a dwelling with all matters reserved. Recommended approval.

20/03244/OUT – Land on east side of 40 South Road. Outline planning for erection of 1 dwelling with all matters reserved. Recommended approval.

20/02005/FUL – Land North of Linton Road - Alteration to previously approved application (S/3564/17/OL and S/1478/19/RM) change two out of three x 2 bed houses into four x 1 bed flats. Recommended refusal.

District Council decisions

20/02710/PRI01A – 32A South Road. Prior approval for a single storey rear extension. Parish Council were not invited to comment. District Council refused.

20/02411/HFUL – 5 Magna Close Single storey front porch extension, first floor side and loft extension with rear dormer windows and roof-light. Parish Council recommended approval. District Council approved.

20/01546/HFUL – Retrospective planning for various extensions relating to planning ref. S/1217/17/FL– 61 North Road. Parish Council recommended refusal. District Council approved.

Great Abington Parish Council Meetings

Held in Abington Village Institute or via Zoom during lockdown

Bernie Talbot (Chairman) tel: 892 647

Planning Committees: These are arranged as required when applications are received. See notice board for dates or contact the Parish Clerk.

Next Parish Council meeting: Monday 21 September 2020 at 7.15pm

There will be opportunities at the start and close of the meeting for members of the public to speak to the council about matters of concern. Notices, agendas and minutes are posted on the Parish Council notice board located at the entrance to Magna Close or available from the parish clerk.

Paula Harper (Clerk): harper802@btinternet.com (892 000)

Little Abington Parish Council

Around the village

Linton Greenway

Following a consultation on the cycleway through the village from Linton to Babraham taking in the planned park and ride site, we are seeking views from local cyclists, residents and others with an interest. For more information go to <https://www.greatercambridge.org.uk/transport/transport-projects/greenways/linton-greenway> and contact the clerk with your comments.

Speedwatch

We have resumed sessions on Pampisford Road and Cambridge Road and feedback from residents suggests that our very presence on the roadside makes a difference. Less traffic on the roads may have been an advantage of lockdown but it allowed some drivers to completely ignore the speed limits.

Village website

If you'd like to get involved with improving the accessibility or content of the website please contact the clerk. (This could be an opportunity for the volunteering requirement of the bronze Duke of Edinburgh award.)

Meeting on Monday 27 July (via Zoom)

Round 2 of the SCDC Zero Carbon Communities Grant is now open and applications are invited from community groups. The focus is on cycling, community buildings and tree planting/nature-based initiatives and grants will be between £1,000 and £15,000. The deadline is Wednesday 30 September. For advice and support please get in touch with the clerk – details below.

Little Abington Parish Council Meetings

Held in Abington Institute or via Zoom during lockdown

Next Meeting: Monday 14 September 2020, Parish Council at 7.30pm

Sheila Bolden (Chairman) tel:07754
659929

Email: shelen@btinternet.com

Genevieve Dalton (Clerk) tel:07703
486562

Email: clerk@littleabington.clara.co.uk

Next meetings at Abington Institute

Monday 14 September Monday 26 October

Details to be confirmed regarding start times and venue on the Abingtons website and the parish council noticeboard. The meeting agendas and papers are published on the Abingtons website: www.theabingtons.org.uk

Members of the Abingtons Rivercare group met on 11 August – with suitable social distancing – and found many organisms in water samples, including this Signal Crayfish.



(See Abington Naturewatch blogspot at

<http://abington-naturewatch.blogspot.com/2020/08/river-sampling-results-11th-august.html>)

Hildersham Focus

Hildersham Church News August 2020

By the time you read this our first Church service will have taken place on Sunday 23 August in the Old School Wood in our beautiful churchyard. The following service, which may also be held in the Old School Wood and again, necessarily, for Hildersham residents only, will be at 4.00pm on Sunday 27 September.

The Annual Parochial Church Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday 23 September; the format of the meeting is to be decided. If you require further details, please contact Amanda Palmer (amjpalmer@gmail.com).

The Children's Church Council had a break during August but we hope to start up again in mid to late September with an outdoor pizza party. CCC members will be emailed confirmation of the date which was proposed as 18 September. Following on from Owen McColl's article in last month's magazine, should any young people like to join us, they will be most welcome, do contact amjpalmer@gmail.com.

Over the holiday period, the young people have been making their own piece of bunting, these pieces will have been joined together for our first service on Sunday 23 August. At our last meeting in July, which was obviously zoomed, two of our members, Lillian and Helena, joined us from the top of a mountain in Scotland, leaving abruptly as there was a storm coming. The children also met the new Church youth worker, Sam Graham. Sam is most welcome and we know his presence will bring even more fun and energy, along with great ideas.

Hildersham Parish Council

Help during Covid-19 lockdown

If there are any residents who find themselves needing to self-isolate please contact the group of Hildersham volunteers who are delivering food and prescriptions, posting mail, as well as offering people the opportunity of a friendly phone call.

If you require assistance please contact the volunteer coordinators: Mark Logan (891 897) or Billie Chapman (07834 210 582).

Potholes

If you notice a fault with the highways, such as pot holes, you can report them using the following link: <https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/travel-roads-and-parking/roads-and-pathways/roadworks-and-faults>

The next meeting of Hildersham Parish Council will be on 15 September. If it is an electronic meeting, parishioners are very welcome to join us. We use 'zoom.uk' and the meeting ID and password are on the agenda.

If you have a matter you would like to raise without attending the meeting, please email or contact the Clerk with details of your query/concern before the meeting.

Paula Harper (Clerk): harper802@btinternet.com (892 000)
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DIARY for September– The Abington Institute is closed until further notice.

Institute bookings: – contact preferably by email: institute@theabingtons.org.uk or phone 01223 790 711

Contacts for Café – Gaynor Farrant 07817 517 871 or gaynorfarrant198@btinternet.com and Gill Smith 892 759 or richardandgill.smith@live.co.uk

Date		Meetings to be held in September	Time	Page
Tue	8	Reading Group	8.00pm	18
Mon	14	Little Abington Parish Council	7.30pm	16
Tue	15	Hildersham Parish Council	7.30pm	17
Mon	21	Great Abington Parish Council	7.15pm	15

Wheelie bin dates for September 2020 (Abingtons and Hildersham)

TUE 1 Black	Mon 7 Green/Blue	Mon 14 Black	Mon 21 Green/Blue	Mon 28 Black
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Bank Holiday 31 August; Black bin collection on Tuesday 1 September

Reading Group

8 September	<i>The Narrow Road to the Deep North</i> Richard Flanagan	Mary Peachey
13 October	<i>Such a Fun Age</i> Kiley Reid	Livia Galbraith
10 November	<i>Agent Running in the Field</i> John Le Carre	Diana Wingfield

We hope to meet face to face. If this is not possible please email comments on the September book to Mary or share by Zoom on 8 September.

Valerie Hefford

Abington & Hildersham Women's Institute

The WI Committee has decided that it would probably be wise to postpone the monthly meetings that had been arranged for the rest of 2020, but we do hope that our Christmas Party on 14 December at the Gog Magog Golf Course will be a great occasion when we can celebrate being together again, albeit socially distanced. Please get in touch with a committee member if you have any thoughts/comments on future meetings. In the meantime, we are thinking of you all and wishing you safe and well.

Marilyn Broadhurst

Great Abington PTFA Update

Calling all Abington villagers! From 27 September to 18 October we will be running an Abington Mini Zoo trail through Great and Little Abington villages. Anyone, not just parents of children in the school, can participate! All you need to do is to create a small zoo exhibit in your front garden, complete with a short information sheet about the animal of your choice. Dinosaurs are allowed! You can use stuffed animals, large animal cut-outs or *papier-mâché* if you would like. Let your imagination run wild. Trail maps will be available for £2 each and sold online (card processing fees apply), in the school office and our local Nisa shop.

If you are interested in creating an exhibit, please contact email PTFA@greatabington.school or telephone Cory Rivers at 07964 191 698. All villagers can participate. All funds raised will be for Great Abington PTFA, charity number 1136090

Church Services for September 2020

DATE	<i>Gt. Abington</i> 	<i>Lt. Abington</i> 	<i>Hildersham</i> 	Readings <i>Which you may care to read at home.</i>
6 September	10.00am Time of	Prayer – Online	Via Zoom	Exodus 12.1-14 Romans 13.8-end Matthew 18.15-20
13 September	10.00am Time of	Prayer – Online	Via Zoom	Exodus 14.19-end Romans 14.1-12 Matthew 18.21-35
20 September	10.00am Time of 4.00pm Open Air Worship	Prayer – Online	Via Zoom	Exodus 16.2-15 Philippians 1.21- end Matthew 10.1-16
27 September	10.00am Time of	Prayer – Online ‘	Via Zoom 4.00pm Open Air Worship	Exodus 17.1-7 Philippians 2.1-13 Matthew 21.23-32

Church Flower Rota

	<i>Gt. Abington</i>	<i>Lt. Abington</i>	<i>Hildersham</i>
6 September	Anne Hall	Sue Fordham / Mary Miles	Cathy Myer
13 September		Lesley Crisp / Rosemary Mead	Kirsten Newble
20 September	and Patsy Randall	Lesley Crisp / Rosemary Mead	Kirsten Newble
27 September		Claire Tinga / Carola Wolverson	Harvest

Churchwardens

<i>Hildersham</i>	Vacancy		
<i>Great Abington</i>	Tony Collett	23 Meadow Walk, Great Abington	893 447
<i>Little Abington</i>	Graham Ross	41 Church Lane, Little Abington	891 564

Assistant Churchwardens

<i>Great Abington</i>	Anne Hall	12 Magna Close, Great Abington	892 275
	Patsy Randall	77 High Street, Great Abington	07765 345 714
<i>Little Abington</i>	Mary Miles	36 Church Lane, Little Abington	891 083
	Marilyn Broadhurst	34 West Field, Little Abington	893 214

Parish Nurse

Claire Gillett	Not 24 hrs, please leave a message if no reply - Claire will respond when next on duty.	07498 994205
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