



THE SKYLARK

Longstowe Parish Newsletter

April 2019



Dates for your Diary:

Parish Open Meeting on Thursday 18th April 2019 at 7.15 pm. Tea and coffee served at 7 pm. This is *your* meeting – come and have *your* say.

Longstowe Parish Council: Parish Clerk Vacancy (Part-time)

The Council is seeking to appoint an enthusiastic person to fill the post of Parish Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer (RFO). This is a great opportunity for a local person who wishes to work flexible hours from home plus one evening meeting each month (excluding August). Knowledge of Word and Excel would be useful. Training can be provided and is highly recommended, and further details on the post including duties can be provided by contacting Bobbie Coe <LongstowePC.Clerk@hotmail.com>.

Hours of work are approximately 4–5 hours a week. The salary scale is negotiated nationally, and is on an hourly rate to be agreed but would be in the region of £9.74 per hour.

Wanted: volunteer editor for the *Skylark*. The *Skylark* is produced every

three months, on the first of January, April, July and October. The January issue is usually prepared early so that it is delivered before Christmas. As this is a Parish magazine, items are usually cleared by the Parish Council before publication.

Neighbourhood Watch

Your co-ordinators are:

Deborah Hemmins 719638

Peter Hemmins 719372

If you see an incident, please take all the details and jot them down. Numbers, dates, times, descriptions. If matters are urgent dial 999. Otherwise telephone 101. You can also report incidents at www.cambs.police.uk.

Longstowe Sports Club News

This year, 2019, marks 100 years since football and cricket have been played in the village, apart from the five years of the second world war.

It was in the spring of 1919 that the young men, and those that returned from WWI, got together and started the club.

In the first instance it was football and was known as Longstowe & Bourn United. Not long after, cricket followed; later Bourn formed their own club.

By the late 1920s and up to 1952, Longstowe cricket operated a team in the Gransden-based Christmas Challenge Cup League. Before WWII and up to 1950, the football team played in the Histon & District League, winning both League and Cup in 1949. After 1950, the club entered a football team in the Cambs League.

In 1952, the club entered a cricket team in the Cambridgeshire Cricket League, becoming Junior League Champions in 1961. Longstowe II won the Minor League in 1979.

At football, Longstowe won the Bambridge Cup in 1962; the following year, 1963, they won the Gransden Charity Cup; both these finals attracted large crowds of supporters.

For many years the club had two football and two cricket teams; alas, because of lack of players, we are now down to just one cricket team.

If you visit the village hall, you can view the many team photos and the Trophy Cabinet. The Club's play-cricket website is at

<http://longstoweplay-cricket.com>

and telephone contacts are

John Gooch 07950 708 019 and

John Murden 07952 425 003

R.H.M.

Longstowe Cricket Club

2019 fixtures

Cambs Junior League 3 South

Date	Home	Away
28 Apr	Abbots Ripton	
04 May	Haslingfield	

11 May		
18 May	Milton 2nds	
25 May		Madingley 2nds
01 Jun	Comberton	
08 Jun	Cam Kerala	
15 Jun	NCI 3rds	
22 Jun	Harlton	
29 Jun		Romsey
06 Jul		
13 Jul	NCI 3rds	
20 Jul		Milton 2nds
27 Jul	Madingley 2nds	
03 Aug		Comberton
10 Aug		Cam Kerala
17 Aug		Haslingfield
24 Aug		Harlton
31 Aug	Romsey	
07 Sep		

Heidi Allen, MP

heidi.allen.mp@parliament.uk

Addenbrooke's is to get a new children's hospital. The Health Secretary, Matt Hancock, confirmed that up to £100 million will be contributed by Government. We all know Addenbrooke's is a centre of excellence and this new children's hospital will enable them not only to continue to provide first class care in a new purpose-built hospital but will also free up valuable space in the existing building.

Looking ahead, 2019 promises to be a big year for Addenbrooke's as the Royal Papworth Hospital moves to the site and plans for a train station pick up pace!

Bringing improved infrastructure and increased funding to South

Cambridgeshire are key priorities for me so I am pleased to share with you a number of recent announcements about the next financial year.

Cambridgeshire County Council received a funding boost, with an increase in core spending power of 5.7%, taking the Council's funding allocation to £386.5 million. This increase in core spending power is more than double the average increase in England.

The Autumn Budget also announced £6,294,319 for Cambridgeshire for adult and children's social care to help alleviate winter pressures on the NHS.

Cambridgeshire Police have seen an increase in their funding from central Government and in addition, the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) has launched a consultation on the Police's share of Council Tax for 2019/20. Last year, the PCC introduced a new structure for local policing which brought an additional 50 officers to the front line. As a result of last year's increase in the policing part of the council tax, a further 55 officers were also recruited and are now in training.

As you probably now know, on the 20th February I announced my resignation from the Conservative Party and joined The Independent Group of MPs. This was an incredibly difficult decision but I believe our country deserves better. More competence, more collaboration, more expert analysis, more transparency, more care, more fairness and less entrenched political ideology. So I have joined, alongside 10 other MPs of both Conservative and Labour backgrounds, The Independent Group. In time, our intention is to form a new political party, positioned in the centre ground of British politics. More

information, including my resignation letter and statement can be found on my website –

<https://www.heidiallen.co.uk/>

I know that not everyone will be happy, but I can honestly say I have been bowled over by the overwhelming support that literally thousands of my constituents have shown for my decision. It means so much to me to know that my decision, hard though it was, has been received so well locally.

I became an MP in 2015 as I wanted to serve my country and give a voice to those who did not have one – that has not changed. It remains a great honour to be your Member of Parliament and although I may have lost my party label, I have not lost my determination to serve you with everything that I have. I'll continue to fight for the very best for South Cambridgeshire: providing excellent local services, ensuring fairer funding for those services, delivering on the vital infrastructure projects we need and continuing to be a voice for the vulnerable in our community.

I'm still "Heidi" and whenever you need my help or are concerned about a local or national issue, to coin a phrase, "nothing has changed!" You can still contact me as you always have. I'll be organising some public meetings and get togethers in the coming weeks and months so you can talk to me about my decision and learn more about my ambitions for this new political party.

Finally, it's the turn of the **A428!** Highways England has published its long-awaited proposals for the A428 between Black Cat and Caxton Gibbet. Full details are available here – <https://highwaysengland.co.uk/projects/a428-black-cat-to-caxton-gibbet/>.

Cllr Dr Tumi Hawkins (SCDC)

<http://www.TumiHawkins.org.uk>

“My South Cambs” Customer Portal

The new web-based SCDC customer portal went live on 21st January. This facility is to enable residents to access council services easily and electronically. Ultimately, it will help us save money that would otherwise be spent on printing papers and postage but more importantly it will free up officer time.

You can access the new portal either from the SCDC homepage or on <https://mysouthcambs.scambs.gov.uk>.

Users can create their own account using e-mail, facebook, Google etc. and it can be used to report issues, ask questions, obtain information on all council services such as waste collection, benefits, planning etc, and also to track progress of enquiries. We are still working on it so we would welcome your feedback and ideas.

Localised Council Tax Support (LCTS) scheme

Council adopted its LCTS scheme at full council in February. The scheme provides help for people on low incomes, pensioners and those in receipt of certain benefits with their council tax bill. Details are at [http://scambs.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s110341/Local Council Tax Support Scheme](http://scambs.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s110341/Local_Council_Tax_Support_Scheme).

The council informs those already in receipt of support about the scheme, but those who think they may be eligible should contact revenues@scambs.gov.uk or call 03450 450 064.

Cllr Mark Howell (CCC)

mark.howell@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Fight against scams

Led by Cambridgeshire County Council and Cambridgeshire Police, the Against Scams Partnership unites more than 20 organisations, including Peterborough City Council, Trading Standards, Age UK, Neighbourhood Watch and NatWest Bank, who will work together to raise awareness of scams and to support victims of scams.

According to Action Fraud, 53% of people aged 65 or over have been targeted by scams and criminals. Being a victim of this crime can have a devastating impact. These crimes are often targeted at people in our communities that are vulnerable for a variety of reasons, including poverty, isolation, frailty, disability, cognitive impairment, and age.

Anyone can be a scam victim, regardless of age, gender, education or economic background; partners are committed to act on the Against Scams Partnership's four key aims:

- Improve awareness of scams
- Increase protection for everyone, and especially vulnerable people, against scams
- Implement consistent recording of scams and improve referral processes
- Improve support for potential victims of scams.

Cambourne Village College

CCC put in process the capital project to expand the College for this September, but an ecological survey carried out late last year found great crested newts. This has caused a delay in the project programme.

As a result, temporary accommodation will be required from September 2019 for a short period of, hopefully, no longer than four months. We have started this process to ensure that two double mobiles are provided for the start of term September 2019 and the project team has been working closely with the school on the location of these mobiles.

New CCC Headquarters in Alconbury Weald

Cambridgeshire County Council is inviting residents to view and comment on plans for its new Headquarters in Alconbury Weald, prior to the submission of a formal planning application.

A decision taken by Full Council in May 2018 set the wheels in motion for the Council to move from its costly six-acre Shire Hall site in central Cambridge to a smaller, more flexible purpose-built building in Alconbury Weald.

The new two-storey headquarters, which aims to be 'bright, efficient and flexible' will incorporate a private wing for staff housing around 350 desks, and a public reception area with informal meeting space.

Council and Committee meetings are set to be held in a multi-use 90-seater space, which can be split into 3 rooms, and offering potential for future community use.

Even after taking the cost of the new building into account, the move is set to save the Council in the region of £46.5m over the next 30 years, savings which will be reinvested back into public facing services.

Planning permission will be submitted in late spring, with construction set to

begin towards the end of 2019, and completion due by December 2020.

The current Shire Hall, running costs are in the region of £900,000 per year. The building of the new and smaller HQ is part of a much wider plan to base ourselves closer to communities, and make better use of our own assets and those of partners across Cambridgeshire.

JOTTINGS FROM THE LONGSTOWE CHURCH PCC (PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL):

A short note this issue, as running late for the Press (as usual). However, there are several *notes of interest*, outside usual church matters, which you might find of interest.

On a recent visit to Ely Cathedral to see the beautiful Stitching Exhibition in The Lady Chapel, we came across the northern chapel that is dedicated to St George and is the chapel of the Cambridgeshire Regiment. Panels on the walls commemorate the men who died in the two world wars of the last century. Imagine our surprise at the entrance to this chapel to find a Book of Remembrance to the fallen, dedicated by Michael Jarvis to his parents Vic and Doris on their Golden wedding in 2011 great friends of the Church and the Village. What a lovely way to recall much loved parents.



A huge thank you from the PCC to Peter Hemmins for dedicating the total collection from Sheila's funeral to the Fabric Fund. Some £430 has been received and we are very hopeful that this, together with other monies held, means a decent form of heating in the church by the end of the year. Hurrah.

Finally, once again much thanks to everyone who has volunteered with the rubber glove duty inside, and saws and pruners for the outside of our pretty church. Everything looks very smart for the start of the church year. Thank you. Much thanks to Will and Mercedes for again generously funding the Churchyard maintenance.

The Annual PCC Meeting which is open to everyone in the Village, is 6th April in the Church at 9.30am. Please do come along. We are in the process of reviewing the **Electoral Roll for the Parish of Longstowe** and if you would like to be included please contact Maddy Crowther (01954 718303) or email madeleinejones@btconnect.com

FUTURE DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

6th April ~ Annual Meeting Longstowe Church PCC (Parochial Church Council). This is an open meeting and will be held in the Church from 9.30am

SPECIAL SERVICES:

14th April ~ Palm Sunday Morning Prayer
10.30 am

19th April ~ Stations of the Cross
Noon (Bourn Church)

21st April ~ Easter Day Holy Communion
9.30 am

30th June ~ Team Service 10.30 am

Devastating drop in bee population

After a steady decline in the number of bees in the English countryside the government has finally been forced to take action.

A large number of formerly unemployed people have been given temporary employment at pollinators. They should be seen at work in our fields, hedgerows and orchards busy pollinating from the beginning of April. The pollinators will be easily identified as they will be wearing uniform yellow and black striped jackets. They will have pollen sacks attached to each knee and headgear with a pair of pollen sensors looking like feelers.

To avoid an over concentration of pollinators in any given area they are encouraged to hum as they work so others nearby will know they are there.

It is anticipated that the groups of pollinators may not all have English as their first language but will need to communicate with their fellow workers so that pollination groups may cover areas efficiently. To this end, they have all been taught to indicate in which direction attention is necessary, by greeting each other with a wiggling shuffle with their feet always pointing to areas heavy with pollen.

This will be tiring work and workers may become fatigued. If you live in a rural area, it could be a good idea to carry a sugar-laden drink to offer to a fatigued pollinator to help to revive him.

If you would like to apply for voluntary work, you will need to apply for a TPL (Temporary Pollination Licence) by applying online to the DEFRA website. Just search for "Bee a bee", the page will be available from 1st April.

Longstowe Village Hall

LONGSTOWE VILLAGE HALL

A.G.M.

**Wednesday, 3th APRIL 2019
at 7.30pm
in the Village Hall**

OPEN to ALL RESIDENTS
Please support your Village Hall

Longstowe History Society

LONGSTOWE HISTORY SOCIETY



Gransden Windmill

History, Significance and Restoration

**illustrated talk by
Martin Davies**

**Tuesday 30th April 2019, 7.30 for 8pm
LONGSTOWE VILLAGE HALL**

Admission: £3 everyone welcome (Members free)
Refreshments included

LONGSTOWE village FETE needs YOUR HELP



SUNDAY 9th June 2.00pm

**the FETE cannot happen without
VOLUNTEERS**

**to help run the
BAR, BBQ, RAFFLE,
STALLS or GAMES**

*** PLEASE join us ***

contact: Jane Bowden, jane@glebehouse.eu

... something new ...

Afternoon Tea

in the Village Hall

**Friday, 26th April
2.30 to 4.30**



and again on ...
**17th May and
28th June**

A14H2C newsletters

The partial remains of a woolly mammoth and a woolly rhino, both dating back to the ice age and at least 100,000 years old, are among the remarkable finds from the team working on the £1.5 billion A14 Huntingdon to Cambridge project, during excavations for construction materials near Fenstanton in what was once an ancient river. One of the tusks was over one metre long and weighed over 40lbs.



Other finds:

Deep below the surface of Britain's biggest road scheme something has been brewing... for a very long time – more than 2,000 years in fact.

Experts have uncovered what is believed to be evidence of the first beer brewed in the UK.

The tell-tale signs of the Iron Age

brew, potentially from as far back as 400 BC, were uncovered in tiny fragments of charred residues from the beer making process from earth excavated with other archaeological finds.

Dr Steve Sherlock, Highways England archaeology lead for the A14, said: "It's a well-known fact that ancient populations used the beer-making process to purify water and create a safe source of hydration, but this is potentially the earliest physical evidence of that process taking place in the UK."

Further finds show the locals also had a taste for porridge and bread as well as beer.

Finds so far have included 40 pottery kilns, 342 burials, a Roman supply depot, rare Roman coins from the third century, three Anglo Saxon villages, and an abandoned Medieval village.

The River Great Ouse Viaduct stretches for half a mile and will take the new A14 over the river and the East Coast Mainline Railway. The Construction Director said: "This viaduct over the River Great Ouse, south of Huntingdon, is by far the biggest bridge on our 21-mile project. It's taken over 18 months to build, and covers 747 metres to carry drivers over the river and floodplain – yet when it opens to traffic in 2020, drivers will cross it in less than 30 seconds."

Village Hall Hire Charge per day £120, per hour £12.

For further information and bookings, contact Mrs Caroline White:
LongstoweVillageHall@outlook.com / telephone or text 077 32 160 951

Please send items for the July 2019 *Skylark* by Monday 13th June to
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Printed by Victoire Press, 9–10 Viking Way, Bar Hill, Cambridge CB23 8EL
T: 01954 781919 F: 01954 780977 info@victoirepress.com www.victoirepress.com