

## LINTON CATHODEON COMMUNITY TRUST

### Report of the Trustees to Linton Annual Parish Meeting 22 April 2014

In our 2013 report, we referred to the expectation that the remedial works to the Children's Centre would be completed in readiness for the official opening of the Children's Centre in July 2013. In the event those hopes were not realised and the opening had to be delayed until October. Even then some works were not carried out until 2014. However, the remedial works have now been completed, though the problems arising from errors in calculating the original site levels and layout will never be wholly resolved. We are particularly pleased with the recent regrading of the paving leading from the car park to the path accessing the community meeting rooms, carried out by fresh contractors. As well as making life easier for users of the Centre, the knowledge that works in the car parking and pedestrian footway area are complete allows us to reopen the play area to the public at weekends.

When it eventually happened, though, the official opening of the Children's Centre, by Councillor Kevin Reynolds, Chairman of the County Council, was a tremendous event: many people from the village, some connected with local groups using the building, some simply pleased to see the community centre being celebrated, and others supporting the Children's Centre and the Library, were there, as well as members of staff from the Children's and Library services and the trustees. Many special activities were on display. The event demonstrated that the Centre is on course to becoming a community hub. A meeting and subsequent correspondence with the highways department of the County Council has confirmed that a sign similar to the one outside the fire station could be placed at the entrance from Horseheath Road. A planning application is shortly to be submitted. We also hope that following the installation of the bus lay-by and shelter at the nearby bus stop the diversion of the village shuttle bus to serve this part of the village will be implemented.

The use of the library, especially by children, has been maintained at broadly the same level as last year. Linton has not experienced the recent fall in use experienced by some other branch libraries in the county. The Friends of Linton Library have had a modest programme of meetings during the year, and the trust has made a further small grant towards their work.

The level of activity at the Children's Centre, however, looks likely to fall as a result of the reorganisation of Centres across the County. Obviously the trustees cannot involve themselves in the wider political issues relating to the provision of public services, but they do everything they can to encourage the maintenance of service levels at the Library and the Children's Centre.

Looking to the future we are extremely grateful to the Parish Council for the money it has allocated in the coming financial year towards the improvement of facilities at the Centre. The trustees have always been aware that financial constraints when the Centre was first created prevented the provision of access to the community rooms to the standard they would have ideally wanted to provide. Allied to funds from the trust's own resources, the Parish Council's funding will permit a significant upgrading of facilities during the summer.

We are pleased to report that hirings of the Centre by community groups and others have remained consistent and the financial position of the trust remains stable and secure, but, as we have pointed out previously, we need to maintain our reserves, which we have built up to meet long term maintenance and repair costs.

The Trustees would like to thank their Honorary Secretary Sue Mudge for the great deal of work she has carried out over the year and Lucy Arnold, our efficient caretaker. Val Urwin was re-appointed to serve a further term as the independent trustee.

Andrew Gore  
Chairman, on behalf of the Trustees

Linton Cathodeon Community Trust,  
The Cathodeon Centre, High Street, Linton, Cambridge CB21 4JT  
Hon Secretary: Sue Mudge, 07765 369266  
Trustees: T Bateman; D Champion; A R Gore; L Martin; V E Urwin; J A Wilson.  
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