

What does your Parish Council do for you?

The Annual Parish Meeting will be held on Thursday 14 May at 6.30pm at the Church Hall, Blacksmiths Way.

This is your opportunity to meet your new Councillors, hear about activities that have taken place over the last 12 months and to discuss, question and influence future Parish events.

All residents of Old Catton are welcome - this is your meeting.

Please contact the Clerk of the Council for further information on (01603) 423880.

Allotments

We are lucky to have over 100 allotments at Spixworth Road in Old Catton. They are well maintained and there is water and parking on site. The cost is £15 a year.

The allotments belong to the Parish Charities. If you are resident within Old Catton and would like an allotment please call John Aldridge on (01603) 413258 or Ann Chandler on (01508) 470388.

The Neighbourhood Plan

The Parish Council is working to produce a Neighbourhood Plan for Old Catton and has established a Steering Group, which is mainly made up of local residents.

There have been a number of community consultation events, which we hope local residents have found informative. From the ideas and comments made at these events the 'Vision and Objectives' have been agreed and detailed activities are now underway to pull together specific outcomes.

We are pleased to report that the Parish Council has successfully secured a grant from Central Government to help fund the costs involved and has made a further application for grant funding to Broadland District Council.

■ For more information visit our dedicated website :

www.oldcattonplan.co.uk or email: info@oldcattonplan.co.uk

The Chairman's Report

This year has been an extremely busy and challenging year! The Parish Council has almost completed its project at Lavaré Park and some excellent results have been achieved. Old Catton Junior Football Club have signed a 50 year lease for the park. A brand new Under 9s play area has been established in a new part of the park which was chosen by the residents of Austin Way. There will also be a wildflower meadow planted in the coming months. Please note that the funds for this project has not come out of your council tax but were funded by Section 106 monies received from the developer of Austin Way.

I am delighted to report that Melanie, the Clerk is still working well for the Council and the Community and has just recently signed a ten year contract with the Parish Council. The Parish Council takes the training of all its staff seriously and has recently invested in all staff being trained in First Aid, Health and Safety, Manual Handling, Defibrillator and Fire Safety. The Parish Council has also stipulated that the Clerk must undertake a university course called Community Governance. This course spans over a period of six years and focuses on the way in which different people and organisations work independently and in partnership, making decisions that affect life in a local community. In the long run this course will benefit both the Council and the Community. I would also like to welcome Colin Franklin to the staffing team as Church Street Recreation Ground Supervisor and I sincerely hope that he has many happy years working for the Council and Community. ▶

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Old Catton Parish Council is now on Facebook and Twitter. You can keep up-to-date with the latest news and also contact the Clerk via these pages. Please follow us on <http://www.facebook.com/OldCattonParishCouncil> or find us on Twitter @OldCattonPC

Please help us spread the word of the Council.

t/f: (01603) 423880 e: oldcattonpc@btconnect.com



► continued from page 1...

After much discussion it was resolved on 1 July 2014 that the Parish Council would become Sole Trustees of Catton Park Trust and become responsible for the day to day management and maintenance of the Park. Catton Park Trust received a transitional grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund to look at the long-term sustainability of the park and with this in mind the Trust must look at the following points to ensure that the Park is viable to all users and that it can be self-financing in the future.

- Re-design the current website page to include social media. The idea of this is to make the web page much more user friendly and to allow for users to interact with the Trust and possibly donate to the Trust.
- Create a ten year business plan which will include a communication strategy and a management and maintenance plan of the Park.
- Increase child and family friendly activities. In particular to engage further with local schools and produce Teachers' Packs on the Park for Key Stages 1 & 2.
- Look at the publicity and promotion of both the Park and Hayman Lodge and develop a large scale events programme as a way to providing the Park with an income.
- Concentrate on recruiting, training and supporting volunteers.
- Develop the park to a heritage audience.
- Develop a plan to make the Park user friendly for both dog owners and non-dog owners.

“ We will undertake the development of a Neighbourhood Plan for Old Catton to help shape the future of the Parish

As part of these points of action I am pleased to report that a Volunteer and Events Officer has been employed on a 12 month fixed term contract using funding from the transitional grant to implement the action plan, with the full support and resources of the Trust and current staff.

The Parish Council also resolved to undertake the development of a Neighbourhood Plan for Old Catton. This plan will help shape the future of the Parish and the community has been involved from the outset with leaflet drops to every household and workshops being held between January and March of this year. I am so pleased with the results that are being achieved through this process and how the community is getting involved in the parish's future.

Finally, I would like to thank my fellow councillors and the Council's staff for all their work during the year.

Bradley Sabberton-Coe
Chairman of Old Catton Parish Council

Parish recycling

Many of you will be aware that the Broadland Recycling Service has improved since 1 October 2014. What you may not be aware is that Catton Park receives a revenue from all the bottles that are recycled at Morrisons. In 2014 this generated around £4,000 of much needed funds towards the running of the Park.

Sadly the Parish tonnage has dropped by 80% since Broadland's improved services. If this continues it will no longer be viable to keep the bins at Morrisons and the Parish risks losing £4,000 of income for the Park. Please reconsider your recycling – 'think community and help generate income for a good cause'.

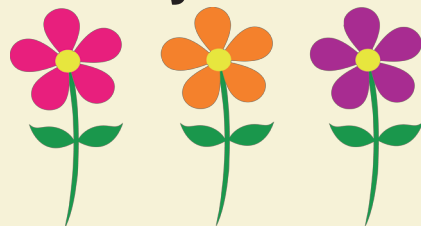
FREE digital safety course for parents

The online world is changing. If you want to learn some basic steps to best protect your child in this ever-changing environment, this handy tips course is for you.

This four hour course is provided by Broadland District Council and is FREE for Broadland residents (£10 for non-Broadland residents).

For more information and to book your place, please call the EcoCube Team on (01603) 295021, www.broadland.gov.uk/training

Old Catton Flower Festival 12-14 June 2015



St Margarets Church will be holding a Flower Festival in June. There will be a wonderful display of flowers inside the church together with craft stalls and refreshments in the Church Hall.

Why not enter the Scarecrow and/or Wheelbarrow competition?

★ Create the best Scarecrow or planted Wheelbarrow and WIN A PRIZE!



Application forms are available from the Church or by email: adp07@btinternet.com
Deadline for entries is 16 May. Entry fee £2.50.

Community Speed Watch - request for volunteers

Are you tired of drivers not sticking to the speed limit around Old Catton? Do you have some spare time that you might be able to offer to help tackle the problem of speeding in our community? Would you be interested in taking part in a Community Speed Watch?

Old Catton Parish Council would like to set up a Community Speed Watch scheme in Old Catton and needs volunteers. After receiving full training and with the full support of the Parish Council, teams of volunteers are issued with a speed radar gun, two Community Speed Watch signs and reflective jackets. The volunteers then carry out speed checks in 30 and 40 mph limits working to Norfolk Constabulary's guidelines.

All returns are logged with details such as vehicle registration, make, model or colour of vehicle. The completed returns are then forwarded to the Safety Camera Partnership team who obtain the registered keeper details. Any registered keepers whose vehicles are observed breaking the speed limit will have their details recorded and will receive a warning letter.

Persistent offenders will be notified to Roads Policing and the local Safer Neighbourhood Team for police enforcement action.

- If you would like to become a volunteer (a minimum of six is required) please contact the Clerk of the Council on (01603) 423880 or email: oldcattonpc@btconnect.com

Community clear up scheme

Is there an area of your Parish that needs sprucing up? A favourite spot that has been spoilt by too much litter? An area that needs a little community attention? 21 March marked the start of spring and the start of Broadland District Council's Broadland Clear Up month.

Majority of the litter in our neighbourhood is frustratingly caused by a small group of people. The mess they make limits how much we can enjoy our spaces, damages the environment, impacts local business, affects house prices and costs us all money to clear.

The rewards of living or working by beautiful public spaces are enormous and the process of making them beautiful should be just as enjoyable. Community Clear Up is a fantastic opportunity to become involved in the local community, make new friends and enjoy a fun day outdoors.

If you would like to volunteer to help the Parish Council set up a Clear Up Group in Old Catton, or can identify an area that is in need of clearing please contact the Clerk of the Council on (01603) 423880 or email: oldcattonpc@btconnect.com

Mobile library

Norfolk County Council has nine public mobile libraries all fully equipped with facilities for those with mobility problems as wheelchair users.

Norfolk mobile libraries offer a wide range of items to borrow including fiction and non-fiction books for all ages, large print books, DVDs, CDs and audio books, many of which can be requested from another library for a small charge.

The mobile library arrives in Old Catton on a Monday on a four weekly rota, with stops located across the village and throughout the day. The mobile library will be next in the village on Monday 1 June.

For more timetable information please visit: www.libraries.norfolk.gov.uk or call (01603) 222267.

Alternatively a copy of the timetable is held in the Parish Council offices at the Pavilion.

Old Catton Twinning Association

Luxury Coach Holiday to Lavaré, France, 13-15 May 2015.

Stay with French hosts (includes two days of trips/activities arranged by the French using our coach, to historical monuments, vineyards, general sight-seeing and a party night). Get shown around the area by the locals and get a feel for real French life and customs.

Cost - just £180 per adult and a heavily discounted rate of £50 for children for the full, authentic French experience.

For more details please visit www.FunTimesInFrance.co.uk or contact Richard Moore (Chairman) (01603) 469133/400690.

A big thank you to everyone who supported The Twinning Quiz Night on 7 February. It was a great success with over 50 people in attendance. Everyone enjoyed mushroom or minestrone soup and a choice of desserts plus tea or coffee, all interspersed with a round or two of the quiz.

Recreation ground facilities

Are your children kicking the life out of your garden plants with their footballs? Want to use the recreation ground but can't get near the goals on the MUGA? The Parish Council has purchased two temporary goals that are available for use on the main Recreation Ground. Simply ask the Park Supervisor for them. These goals are easily assembled and lightweight. They must be returned to the Park Supervisor after use.

Please note that the correct use of the goals is your/your child's responsibility and that any incorrect use will result in the goals being removed and any damages claimed.

Why not try something new?

We are a friendly group who meet at the Old Catton Recreation Ground, Church Street on Thursday afternoons during the Summer to play bowls for fun!

If you would like to try bowls in a no-pressure environment – or even to just have a look – why not come along to one of our FREE Taster Sessions - call (01603) 478789 to find out more details.

Absolutely no experience is necessary, all ages are welcomed and we have a selection of bowls which you can borrow – please wear flat-soled shoes or trainers to protect the green!

Experienced bowlers are also welcomed as the club has teams in The Pensioners League and The Yare League.

■ **If you would like further information please contact Tony Jones (01603) 478789.**

Old Catton Cricket Club

We're looking for new players from age nine years and upwards for our junior teams and senior players age 15 years upwards for our Saturday/Sunday and midweek teams.

All levels welcome, we have nets throughout the winter on Sundays.

For more details please visit www.oldcattoncc.com or contact: Paul Prime (Club Captain) 07580 596900 Ryan Turner (1st Team & Juniors) – 07754 323705 Barry Clemitson ("A" Team Captain) 07747 826024.

Old Catton Tennis Club

Come and join our friendly group.

We play throughout the year every Wednesday afternoon (1pm-3pm) and commencing in May every Thursday evening (6pm). New members welcome – some playing experience is preferred.

For more information please contact Joan (01603) 426493 (for Wednesday details) or Janet (01603) 412029 (for Thursday details).

Your Parish Council

Parish Council meetings are held on the second Monday of the month at 7.30pm at the Pavilion, Recreation Ground, Church Street.

PARISH COUNCILLORS

Mr J Arnott

210 St. Faiths Road, NR6 7AG
(01603) 429512

Ms W Atkinson

27 Greenborough Road,
Sprowston, NR7 9HQ
07939 531674

Mrs A Chandler

The Croft, 60 Church Road,
Swainsthorpe, NR14 8PR
(01508) 470388

Mr B Honess

1 Colkett Drive, NR6 7ND
(01603) 419943

Mr B Leggett

30 Garrick Green, NR6 7AL
(01603) 429986

Mr B Palmer

45 Catton Chase, NR6 7AS
(01603) 465514

Mr B Sabberton-Coe

62 Garrick Green, NR6 7AN
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Mr D Thompson

145 Spixworth Road,
NR6 7DU
(01603) 414141

Mr G Tingle

36 Mousehold Lane,
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(01603) 404472

Mr M Vincent

4 Colkett Drive, NR6 7ND
(01603) 485460

Miss P Wilkin

Church Barn, Swash Lane,
Rackheath, NR13 6QT
(01603) 781050

Mrs J Williams

13 Colkett Drive, NR6 7ND

Is 2015 the year to start your own business?

A free programme is offered by Broadland district Council for all Broadland residents who want to find out more about self-employment.

The programme consists of an introductory three hour Business Start-Up Workshop to introduce you to the basic principles of starting a business. This is followed by a three day Business Essentials Programme, to delve deeper into what to expect in starting and running your own business. The course shares knowledge and signposts you to additional resources.

Throughout and after each course, you will receive on-going support and advice from the Council's Business Advisors as you decide whether running a business is right for you.

Please call (01603) 430449 to speak to Jane Bagley or Jo Kerrison from the Economic Development Team at Broadland District Council to discuss your ideas (in confidence) and find out what stage you are at with starting a business. Through this conversation, we can help tailor-make the best programme specifically for you. Visit: www.broadland.gov.uk/startup

Joint editors: Melanie Kingshott and Bradley Sabberton-Coe
Old Catton Parish Council, The Pavilion, Church Street,
Old Catton, NR6 7DS.



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The Parish Council office opening hours are Monday to Friday 9.30am to 12 noon. You can contact the Clerk on (01603) 423880, email: oldcattonpc@btconnect.com or via the Parish Council's website, Facebook or Twitter (details on page 1).