

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 phone John Aldridge on (01603) 413258 or Ann Chandler on (01508) 470388.

PLANNING MATTERS

Spixworth Road

The new development at Spixworth Road, next to Lavare Park has made rapid progress with several families living there at the beginning of 2013. The Council has a good working relationship with the developers, Taylor Wimpey. Arrangements were made for the builders to have the use of the pavilion and car park at Lavare Park for which the Council is being suitably rewarded. We have enjoyed a good relationship, particularly with Glen, the site manager who has been very helpful. The design of the new car park has now been agreed to our satisfaction.

Broadland District Council has been consulting residents about the Growth Triangle and Area Action Plan but the response at their surgeries at the Recreation Ground has been minimal.

The outline planning application for the Beyond Green development will be decided by Broadland District Council later in the year. The Council had no objections to the plan but did remind the planners that it would not consider vehicular access to St Faiths from the proposed East West road from Wroxham Road to the Airport industrial estate. We hasten to assure you that this has not been proposed but it is always a good idea to ensure that everybody remembers!

Your local council tax

There was some confusion about setting the Council's precept this year due to the Government's changes to housing benefits that affected the Council Tax 'base' - the number of equivalent 'band D' properties. Broadland District Council agreed to make up any potential deficiency on the condition that the Parish Council's overall precept was not increased. Fortunately the Parish Council had only thought about a very minimal increase and it was possible to forego an increase with some pruning of the budget.

The Council has not discussed this at all but your editors are curious to know how you would feel about paying more council tax, probably about another 50 pence a week, so that the Parish Council could take over Catton Park? The funding from the Heritage Lottery Fund will run out in 2015 and the Trust will have great difficulty in keeping the Park going as grants from Norfolk County Council and Broadland District Council are not envisaged. We are simply trying to gauge public opinion before any discussion might take place. Please will you tell us how you feel about this?

Once again we apologise to the majority of our residents that we have to mention problems caused by a few less considerate people.

DOG POO

The Council continues to receive complaints about dog poo fouling areas where people are walking and playing. It is an offence to leave dog poo in a public area for which you could be fined up to £1,000. Dogs are not allowed on Lavare Park!

PARKING AND DRIVING ON GRASS VERGES

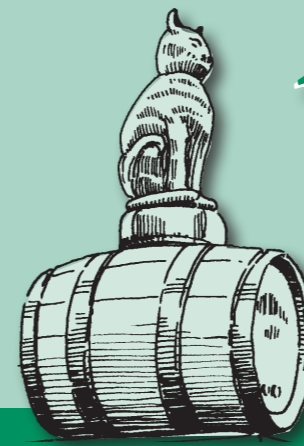
Yes, this is still making an awful mess in parts of the Village. The area outside Sewell Court at the Paddocks continues to be an eyesore because of vehicles driving and parking there. PLEASE DO NOT DRIVE OR PARK ON GRASS VERGES.

Parish Council

Parish Council meetings are on the second Monday of the month at 7.30pm at the Pavilion, Church Street Recreation Ground. Residents are welcome to attend, and speak while the meeting is adjourned. The actual dates are 10 June, 8 July, 9 September, 14 October, 11 November and 9 December 2013.

Parish Councillors

- Mrs J Williams**
13 Colkett Drive, NR6 7ND
- Miss P Wilkin**
Church Barn, Rackheath
781050
- Mr M Vincent**
4 Colkett Drive, NR6 7ND
485460
- Mr G Tingle**
36 Mousehold Lane,
NR7 8HA
404472
- Mr D Thompson**
145 Spixworth Road,
NR6 7DU
414141
- Mr B Sabberton-Coe**
62 Garrick Green, NR6 7AN
483976
- Ms W Atkinson**
27 Greenborough Road,
NR 7 9HQ
07939 531674
- Mr B Palmer**
45 Catton Chase, NR6 7AS
465514
- Mr B Leggett**
30 Garrick Green, NR6 7AL
429986
- Mr B Honess**
1 Colkett Drive, NR6 7ND
419943
- Mr C Green**
59 The Warren, NR6 7NN
429626
- Mrs A Chandler**
The Croft, 60 Church Road,
Swainsthorpe, NR14 8PR
(01508) 470388
- Mr J Arnott**
210 St Faiths Road, NR6 7AG
429512



Your newsletter

for the residents of old catton

Spring 2013



Annual Parish Meeting

As usual at this time of year Your Newsletter invites you to the Annual Parish Meeting. This will be held at the Church Hall on Thursday 23 May 2013 at 7.30pm. This is a meeting for the electors of the parish and is not a Parish Council meeting. You are invited and welcome to come and talk about any matters affecting Old Catton.

Representatives of Village organisations are invited to come and report to the meeting on their organisations' activities. If you would like to present a written report please email: oldcattonpc@btconnect.com and it will be printed for the meeting.

The meeting will be chaired by the Parish Council's Chairman who will give you an account of the Council's activities during the last year. The Chairman's report and a copy of the Income and Expenditure of the year are set out in this newsletter.

There is also an invitation to an 'Open House' at the Church Street Recreation Ground between 5 and 7pm. This is Sally's last day and you may wish to say goodbye to her and meet the new Clerk, Melanie.

Thank you!

As this is my last newsletter as Clerk of Old Catton Parish Council I want to say a very big thank you to the wonderful people of Old Catton who have made my sixteen years working here so enjoyable. It has been a great pleasure to work in such a pleasant and friendly Village with such a good Parish Council. I have enjoyed it all and hope that you will be as kind to Melanie, my successor, as you have been to me!

Sally Barber

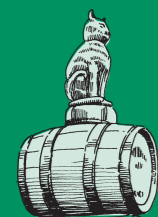
Catton Park

As you may know, the Park is run and maintained by the local charity Catton Park Trust. The Trust is run by local people for the benefit of local people. In this newsletter there is an overview of the income and expenditure on the Park for the year ending September 2012. Much of the expenditure is on the upkeep of the Park - for example maintaining the trees in the 20 acres of woodland and maintaining and improving the network of footpaths within the Park. During the summer the meadow is mowed - this is not done all at once but over time to encourage the wildflowers and provide a haven for wildlife. During the year money was spent on two major projects. The first was the provision of educational equipment (for example the interactive whiteboard) in Hayman Lodge. The second project was the completion of the fencing along Oak Lane. The Trust relies on grants and donations to cover the costs of running the Park and to cover the costs of projects. Without the invaluable support of donors and volunteers the Park could not function. Some income is generated from the sale of hay, charcoal and hazel sticks. You can support the Park by purchasing these items - please contact the Warden to do so.

Hayman Lodge was opened in July 2011. The Lodge provides an inviting space for community and educational uses. During the time the Lodge has been open it has been used for a variety of activities. These include visits from local schools, Forest School training days, Scout and Brownie activities, outdoor theatre for children, children's activity days and talks for adults. If you would like to hire the Lodge for your event please get in touch with the Lodge Administrator, email: cattonpark.norwich@hotmail.co.uk

During 2013 Hayman Lodge will be open on the first Sunday of each month with a variety of events including refreshments and exhibitions. Trustees will be available to chat. For details on the open days look for posters around the Park, information in the Parish Magazine and local press and on the website at www.cattonpark.com Our open day in June will be on Saturday 8 June when the new wildlife pond will be opened.

Please see the Trust's accounts on page 1.



Joint editors:
Sally Barber and Bradley Sabberton-Coe

Old Catton Parish Council

The Pavilion, Church Street, Old Catton, NR6 7DS

www.oldcatton.com

The Village website is working well, please visit it and our Facebook page for lots of information about what's going on.



Sporting activities in Old Catton

Cricket

Old Catton Cricket Club is seeking new members young and old to join our thriving club. Whether you are a Junior looking to learn the game, or a seasoned veteran we have a place for everyone. Our Junior coaching will begin on Sunday June 9th from 10.30am to 12pm at Old Catton Recreation Ground. New members welcome! Anyone interested in finding out more please visit our website and use the contact form, or contact Andy Harris, Club Captain tel. 07591 000570 (Adults) Ryan Turner, Youth Development tel. 07754 323705 (Juniors).

www.oldcattoncc.hitscricket.com email: oldcattoncc@hotmail.co.uk

Bowls

The Anglia Bowls Club invites you to come and play for leisure every Thursday afternoon from 2 to 4 pm. No equipment is needed, just flat soled shoes or trainers. If you would like more information about the bowls club, phone Tony on (01603) 478789.

Old Catton Tennis Club

The Wednesday afternoon tennis group plays between 1 and 4 pm and always welcome new members and you don't have to be experienced players. If you are unsure about it, why not come along to the Recreation Ground and watch one afternoon before committing yourself? Friday evening tennis sessions have begun again and can also accommodate new players, just turn up from 6pm onwards with your gear – you'll be made very welcome.

Maire Booty, Secretary, Old Catton Tennis Club

Catton Park Trust - receipts and payments account 01/10/2011 to 30/09/2012

CATTON PARK TRUST LTD	
INCOME	
Heritage Lottery Fund	£ -
Defra	9,575
Broadland District Council (paid late in October)	-
Norfolk County Council	2,500
Old Catton Parish Council	7,000
Grant for fencing, Broadland District Council	2,776
Recycling credits, Broadland District Council	2,000
Donations and Sponsorship of publicity leaflets	120
Bank interest	498
Rent South Lodge (during transition)	400
Refund of fees and bills for education building*	5,151
Hayman Lodge, education equipment grants	6,500
Donations for use of Hayman Lodge	1,600
Outdoor theatre	1,199
Miscellaneous, including hay and charcoal	1,583
	40,903
EXPENDITURE	
General running costs	41,145
Tractor and machinery	2,571
Rent of the Park	2,808
Capital work, fencing	6,820
Hayman Lodge (reimbursed by GNDP)*	4,490
Miscellaneous	993
Hayman Lodge, running costs	2,802
Outdoor Theatre	942
	62,570
GENERAL FUND	
Balance at 1 October 2011	89,882
+ Total Income	40,903
	130,785
- Total Expenditure	62,570
Balance at 30 September 2012	68,215

Chairman's report

This has been a year of changes! I was elected as Chairman last May and Ann Chandler as Vice Chairman. David Thompson had decided to stand down after 13 years of fine service to the Council and Community; the Council presented him with a painting of Church Street. We were sad when Ann Riches resigned because of her poor health and even more sad when she died in January. Ann had been a member of this Council for 27 years and also a member of Broadland District Council and Old Catton Village Hall Management Committee for several years. We welcomed Wendy Atkinson to fill the vacancy.

Our excellent Groundsman, Bert Stacey retired in February and a new Groundsman, Scott Fountain, has now been appointed. We shall have a new Clerk in May when Sally retires. She is Melanie Kingshott, she is moving up to Norfolk from Kent, where she was Town Clerk at Sandwich. Please come to an 'Open House' at the Recreation Ground between 5 and 7pm on Friday 31 May 2013 to say Goodbye to Sally and Hello to Melanie

As always the Council has been busy. We have been negotiating with the Old Catton Junior Football Club with the aim of the Club leasing most of Lavare Park for its home ground. The negotiations are almost complete now and we are helping the Club to fence the area to be used for the football pitches to keep dogs out. There will be an area around the pitches, outside the fence where dogs can be exercised so dog owners are not being forgotten! There will be a new play area, paid for by the funding provided by Taylor Wimpey, the developers of the housing site.

The housing marketing name and the road names are in honour of the late Les Austin, who as County Councillor, campaigned tirelessly to get the wonderful cycle track and footpath connecting the Village with Spixworth.

...the year ending 31 March 2013

Bradley Sabberton-Coe, Chairman

The Council examined the ways in which it was conducting its business and decided to abandon committee meetings, which the public had never supported, and to carry out all its business at the full Council Meetings which are now held on the second Monday of each month at the Pavilion at the Recreation Ground. The residents who attend have said they like the new format but they are still few in number.

Although there is a lot of activity in planning, with the so called Growth Triangle, the Joint Core Strategy and, currently, consultation by Broadland District Council on the Area Action Plan, little of this is in Old Catton. The area to the north of the Paddocks for which Beyond Green Developments is applying for outline planning consent is the only land proposed for development in Old Catton. Although the planning application will be dealt with by Broadland District Council this year, building in Old Catton is not likely to begin for about 15 years. The land in the Beyond Green planning application also includes a large piece of recreation land to be used for cricket, as well as other things.

There was a serious loss to residents when the buses changed and the service 10 stopped running along Spixworth Road. This is a real problem for the residents who had relied on this service for shopping in the City, at Morrisons and getting to the Doctors' surgery. First has arranged a very limited new service but it is not very popular as its route takes a very long time to get into the City.

I want to thank Brian Honess and the Jubilee Committee for the wonderful event they organised to celebrate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee in June; the weather was very kind and everybody had a great time. The Council was not able to fund a potential loss from a fete this year but there will be an event at Catton Park on 1 September when the Village can get together.

The Council continues to support Catton Park and feels that it is a great asset to the Village. The grant money that originally funded the Park will run out in 2015 and I would be interested to know residents' views on how the Park should be funded in future; do you think the Parish Council should take it over? Please let me know what you think.

Some new play equipment is on order for the bigger children at the Church Street Recreation Ground. I have to thank the children of the Church Street School for their help in choosing Titan and Viper. We hope it will be in place ready for the summer holidays.

Currently the Council is applying for a 75% Parish Partnership grant from Norfolk County Council to change most of its street lights to LED lanterns. This would cost about £80,000 so we are not confident that Norfolk County Council will be able to make such a big grant. This has come at a good time as the old lights are becoming old and in need of replacement in the coming years. An initial estimate of the saving is about £3,000 a year. The LED lights can be dimmed at midnight enabling them to stay on all night but at a reduced cost. There appears to be no minuses in this plan!

I would like to thank my fellow councillors and the Council's staff for all their work during the year, also the loyal residents who continue to support Council meetings.

OLD CATTON PARISH COUNCIL Income and Expenditure Account 01/04/2012 to 31/03/2013

INCOME		£
Precept from Broadland District Council		160,000
Delegated function, cutting highways verges		2,732
SI06 payment for bowls building		16,913
SI06 payment for new seats		980
Bank interest		2,112
Cemetery fees		4,604
Payment by PCC for cutting open Churchyard		150
Hire charges and lettings at Recreation Grounds		8,517
Income from bottle banks		217
Jubilee Celebrations		2,608
New homes bonus from Broadland District Council		895
Miscellaneous		980
		200,708
EXPENDITURE		£
Delegated function, cutting highways verges		2,797
Repayment of loans		6,890
Capital work, trod in Oak Lane		7,620
Administration		46,103
Grants		600
Cemetery and Churchyard		7,997
Church Street Recreation Ground, running costs		53,066
Lavare Park, running costs		9,085
Plant and machinery		3,062
Street lighting		15,838
Woodham Leas amenity land		-
Grant to Catton Park		5,000
Jubilee Celebrations		2,503
Purchase defibrillator (with new homes bonus)		779
Payment for bollards in Church Street		371
Miscellaneous		1,574
		163,285
GENERAL FUND		£
Balance at 1 April 2012		116,057
+ Total Income		200,708
		316,765
- Total Expenditure		163,285
Balance at 31 March		153,480
LOAN OUTSTANDING		£
Public Works Loans Board, to be repaid in 2016		6,200