RECREATION

• Some of the planned additional land at Lavare Park could be considered as a site for a sports hall.

Do you think this is a good idea?  Yes [ ] No [ ]

Would you use such a hall?  Yes [ ] No [ ]

What would you use it for?

• Additional outdoor sporting facilities and pitches at land adjacent to Lavare Park. This has been agreed although the additional land will not be fit for play until 2011.

• The under 9s play area has been completely refurbished and new equipment provided there and to the north of the Recreation Ground for older children. The Multi Use Games Area is well used. Adult fitness equipment has been provided.

TRANSPORT AND ROADS

• Speeding. The Police have continued to carry out numerous speed checks but have found compliance with limits to be acceptable. Members of the Council have been trained to operate Speedwatch cameras.

• Safety. There is still concern about the accidents at Spixworth Road.

• School traffic. The entrance drive to the Recreation Ground has been improved with a view to creating a safer entrance for children attending the Church Street junior school.

• Bus shelters. New bus shelters have been provided, with grant help from Norfolk County Council.

Are there other bus stops where shelters are needed?

• Street lighting. Any new lights provided have been of the less polluting type.

• Norfolk County Council continues to monitor the situation at the junction of Fifers Lane with St Faiths Road.

THE FUTURE

What do YOU think about the Village?

What do YOU think is needed?

How can the Parish Council help YOU?

How could YOU help?

Thank you for completing this questionnaire

Spring Edition 2009

Joint editors:
Sally Barber
Bradley Sabberton-Coe
Old Catton Parish Council
The Pavilion, Church Street
Old Catton, NR6 7DS

We apologise that this newsletter is later than we had hoped.

We wanted to include a review of the Parish Plan policies and this is set out for you to detach and let us know what YOU think. It is now five years since the plan was prepared and much has been achieved but it will be good to hear how you see things and what you think still needs to be done.

Thank you for completing this questionnaire

Around the village

Speedwatch

Two of your Councillors and a resident have been trained to operate Speedwatch cameras and you may see them working in the Village. Unfortunately, at present, they are not allowed to operate in the 20 mph areas; we are trying to get around this as some of the 20 mph areas are causing a lot of the concern!

If you would like to join the Speedwatch team please let us know and we can arrange for you to be trained to use the camera and help to stop speeding.

Safer Neighbourhoods

The SNAP Panel has met every 3 months at either Spixworth, Sprowston or Old Catton. The next meeting in Old Catton will be on Monday 20th April 2009 at 7.30 pm at the Great House Training Centre, Age Concern, St Faiths Road. As always residents are invited to attend and express their views and concerns about problems, like crime, vandalism or anti social behaviour in the Villages. The SNAP Panel will then prioritise its activities for the next three months. At the last meeting, held at Spixworth, just 2 issues were prioritised – problems with serious anti social behaviour at the Sprowston Retail Park and speeding at Buxton Road, Spixworth. You can read about everything that is going on by visiting the website – sprowston/spixworth@norfolk.pnn.police.uk

Church Street Recreation Ground

The MUGA is well used both informally and for netball and floodlit football training. The under 9s area must the best play area around with all its lovely new equipment and surfacing. The adult fitness equipment is enjoyed by all age groups; the children use it very innovatively! There are new ‘big’ swings as well. All this has been paid for by the developers of the sites as The Paddocks and Lavare Court along with grants from Biffaward, Broadland District Council and the Paul Bassham Trust. Some of the money has been saved to pay for future maintenance of these wonderful facilities.

www.oldcatton.com

Tel/Fax: (01603) 423880  E-mail: oldcattonpc@btconnect.com
Catton Park

The capital work at the Park has progressed. It was planned to repaint the gates and railings at Oak Lane but various defects were found resulting in delays and the need to seek funding for the work. The gates may have been replaced by the time you read this. The gates will normally be closed, you can get into the Park through the ‘kissing gate’ close to the main gates or any of the other entrances.

Teams of volunteers have been a great help. A large group of foreign, and very hardworking young people cleared large areas in October. A more mature group planted many shrubs and plants in January, fortuitously on a fine day! If you or an organisation you are involved with would like to volunteer please let us know, there is always work to be done and (I am told as I sit in my warm office) it is a lot of fun!

Churchyard

You may have noticed the Churchyard has been extended slightly towards Garrick Green thanks to the generosity of a neighbour who gave a strip of land. The Church and the Parochial Church Council have provided some fine railings to form the new boundary. The Church will use this land for cremation plots.

Old Catton Cricket Club

Founded in 1866, Old Catton Cricket Club has a very long and proud association with the Parish of Old Catton. Originally playing in the grounds of Catton Hall the club has grown over the years and now puts out three sides competing in the Norfolk Cricket League on Saturdays, one side playing friendly matches on Sundays and a midweek team that last year made it into two semi-finals of prestigious competitions. The First XI (Division 2 of the Norfolk Cricket League) and the Second XI (Division 5) play their home matches at Old Catton Rec with the Third XI playing at Sprotton Rec.

We are always happy to hear from prospective new players, and with the three Saturday sides playing at different levels we can usually accommodate players of all abilities. We are a very friendly club, and as we are sponsored by the Whalebone PH we can always be found there on a Saturday evening in the summer!

Extensive pre-season indoor practice sessions are in place, and any potential new members will be warmly welcomed at these sessions.

For further information, or an informal chat about the Club, please contact Jon Cooke, Club Captain by telephone 07885 958768 or e-mail photo_create@yahoo.co.uk

Dates of Council meetings in 2009

These are held on the fourth Thursday of the month at the Village Hall, Church Street. Residents are welcome to come along and take the opportunity to speak to the Council.

The dates are:
- February 26th, March 26th,
- April 23rd, May 28th,
- June 25th, July 23rd,
- September 24th,
- October 22nd and November 26th.

The Annual Parish Meeting will also be held on Thursday 28th May, details of this meeting will be given in the next newsletter.

Your Parish Councillors

Mr J Arnott
210 St Faiths Road, NR6 7AG
429512

Mrs A Chandler
60 Spixworth Road, NR6 7NF
408012

Mr C Green
59 The Warren, NR6 7NN
429626

Mr B Leggett
30 Garrick Green, NR6 7AL
429986

Mr A Lovett
13 Fifers Lane, NR6 7AE
425726

Mrs G Masdin
21 Spixworth Road, NR6 7NE
486005

Mr B Palmer
45 Catton Chase, NR6 7AS
465314

Mr A Richards
28 Catton Chase, NR6 7AS
408177

Mr B Sabberton-Coe
62 Garrick Green, NR6 7AN
483976

Mr D Thompson
145 Spixworth Road, NR6 7DU
414141

Mr M Vincent
4 Colkett Drive, NR6 7ND
485461

Miss P Wilkin
Church Barn, Rackheath
781050

Mrs J Williams
13 Colkett Drive, NR6 7ND
429512

Please complete the boxes with your views and return this page to the Council office at the Recreation Ground (address on front page) or to any Parish Councillor - listed opposite.

COMMUNICATION AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT

• Notice boards. Two new boards have been provided at St Faiths Road and Norman Drive and another is planned for George Hill.

Where are new notice boards needed?

• The Annual Parish meeting has been promoted and was well attended in 2008.

Do you have any suggestions to improve this?

• The Village website. An annual grant for the website has been agreed to help fund its maintenance and development.

• Signing of the Council’s office. There are new signs.

Are these adequate?

• The achievement of Quality Parish Status. This was successful and Old Catton was the first parish in the Broadland Area to succeed. It will be necessary to re-apply for Quality Status in 2010.

THE ENVIRONMENT

Tree planting and preservation in liaison with the Parish Tree Warden. A planting scheme at Woodham Leas was carried out. The wooded area at the Recreation Ground has been checked and necessary tree surgery carried out. An ongoing programme to care for the woods is planned.

CATTON PARK

Old Catton Parish Council has supported the Catton Park Trust and Catton Park is now fully used by the public. A member of the Council is one of the Trustees and the Clerk of the Council is Company Secretary. A small annual grant is paid to the Trust.

Do you think the Council should do more to support the Trust? Yes  No

How?