Seasonings Greetings from the Chairman

2019 has been a very successful year. We welcomed 5 new members to the Parish Council and their enthusiasm to achieve the best results for the Parish has been infectious. New development to the Parish has provided S106 monies which has been used towards the improvement of facilities at the Recreation Ground – funds have been used for 4 new pieces of fitness equipment, to purchase football goals for use by our new resident football club, upgrading the changing rooms, towards scoring hut and training mats, installing water at the bowls hut, purchase of new tennis nets and, shortly, the purchase of portable floodlights and new playground equipment in the Under 9s play area. Significant increase of footfall at the Recreation Ground has been noted; we hope residents are pleased with the facilities we are providing. A Community Centre Working Group (consisting mostly of Old Catton residents) has been formed to take plans forward for a new community centre in Old Catton; residents views on this project are welcomed and details of meetings will be posted on the Parish Council website. Projects for next year will hopefully include the installation of a footpath from Priors Drive to Lodge Lane as part of the Norfolk County Council Parish Partnership Bid with some funding being provided by Norfolk County Councillor Karen Vincent.

Your Parish Council wishes you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year and looks forward to welcoming 2020 and the challenges this will bring.

Bradley Sabberton-Coe

CATTON PARK TRUST

It’s been another full summer of events at Catton Park: Circus in the Park, Theatre in the Park, Cinema in the Park, the Fun Day and Sparks in the Park. As always the Trust is thankful to all who attended and supported these events – the funds raised help significantly towards the running and maintenance of the Park.

We are delighted to see an increase in the number of volunteers offering help, whether through litter picking, manual work or at events. We are grateful to all who volunteer to help towards keeping Catton Park the beautiful place it is for all to enjoy. If you are interested in volunteering please email warden@cattonpark.com.

Catton Park is pleased to have been awarded the Green Flag Community Award for a third year and are proudly flying our flag on the pole outside the main gates. The Award recognises and rewards well managed parks and green spaces and the Trust feels that the Award’s recognition truly reflects the Trust’s Vision for Catton Park:

- Manage and protect Catton Park in a way that is recognised as high quality, enhancing the natural landscape and wildlife whilst promoting enjoyment for the local community and visitors; and
- Provide opportunities and facilities for education and recreation in a safe and attractive environment, which will encourage greater understanding of the heritage and natural asset of Catton Park.

We wish you all a Happy Christmas and New Year and look forward to welcoming you to Catton Park in 2020.
OLDCATTON TEEN CAFÉ

SYEP youth group has now moved to a permanent home on Old Catton Recreation Ground, where we run each Thursday 7pm until 9pm. This is for young people aged Year 7 and up, all new young people are welcome, just get in touch with our project Lead on clare.lincoln@syep.co.uk. Over the past few months Active Norfolk have funded JB Sports to deliver a number of different sports activities including football and dodgeball and our young people feed back that they have really enjoyed the sessions. This will continue until the end of the year. We will be booking tubing for the Christmas holidays which is a free trip for any young person who attends. We are currently looking for volunteers so if you’re free even once a month please get in touch.

On the 27th of October, 3 workers and 5 young people, 2 of which are from Old Catton took part on the Yorkshire Three Peaks Challenge to raise money for SYEP and the NNAB (the Norfolk and Norwich Association for the Blind). The challenge needs to be completed in 12 hours and is just under a 25 mile trek over three mountains. Even though on the day they had to contend with rain, snow, below freezing temperatures, freezing wind, freezing fog and 4 miles of bogs, they managed to complete the challenge in 11 hours and 40 minutes. We are not sure how much has been raised at this point but we think it will be around £1500. Half will go to each charity.

OLD CATTON EVENING W.I.

We have had a very busy and enjoyable year celebrating our Centenary, In July some members attended the Norfolk Federation Garden Party at East Ruston Vicarage Gardens, it was a glorious day, we met up with friends from other WIs and enjoyed the gardens followed by afternoon tea.

For Norfolk Day in August we painted wooden spoons to decorate Evelyn Suffield House garden and listened to Gardener’s question time broadcast from there. Our darts team reached the finals for the first time in eight years, unfortunately not winning but having great fun. We have had interesting speakers throughout the year from the History of Cromer, The Theatre Royal and Historic Tombland to Blood Bikes and a social evening. Our monthly walks are very popular and we find many hidden gems in our county. We are looking forward to our Christmas party and the start of our next century. New members are always welcome to join our friendly group, contact either Lorna Brigden (President) 07794 714621 or Secretary Rachel Wright (01603 301874) for details.

AFC NORWICH

'AFC Norwich Football Club were formed at the beginning of the 2016-2017 Season and joined the Norwich & District Sunday League (Division 5) with our home pitch being Sloughbottom Park. We were originally formed as a group of work friends whom after a difficult first season finished mid table. Due to a League reshuffle we were promoted to Division 4 and after relocating our home pitch to Eaton Park and bringing in some new signings, found the 2017-2018 Season much more successful and ended up winning the League title. Due to another League reshuffle and due to our recent League title, we found ourselves again moving up Divisions and were therefore placed in Division 2 for the 2018-2019 Season where we again experienced success by gaining promotion and also reached the semi-final of the Sunday Junior cup.

At the end of the 2018-2019 season, only being formed as a football club for 3 Seasons we had already in such a small space of time experienced great success and as a result we wanted to continue this in the 2019-2020 Season by bringing in more new faces and finally get a home pitch that we were proud of and that we could call home for the foreseeable future. This is when we turned to Old Catton Recreation Ground where, after really good discussions with Sarah and Gail at the Old Catton Parish Council, we were offered excellent facilities that we were extremely excited to start using. Up to now we have only had a few home games where we have been undefeated and so far it has been more than we could have hoped for and we look forward to another successful Season and many more to come at Old Catton Recreation Ground!'
STREET PARTY 8TH MAY 2020

May Day is traditionally held on a Monday but will be put back to Friday 8th May 2020 to coincide with the 75th Anniversary of VE Day or Victory in Europe Day, which marks the day in World War Two when fighting against Nazi Germany in Europe came to an end. The holiday will form part of a three day weekend of commemorative events across the country.

Old Catton Parish Council is considering holding a street party on Friday 8th May. This would take place at the Recreation Ground on Church Street and in the tradition of all good Street Parties, each guest would be asked to bring along a plate of food to share. More information will be posted closer to the time via social media, posters, local publications and notice boards.

DATE OF NEXT SNAP MEETING
SAFER NEIGHBOURHOOD ACTION PANEL

The next meeting will be at 7pm on Monday 27th January at Gage Road Chapel in Sprowston.

WENSUM BOWLS CLUB

Wensum Bowls Club play their games in the evenings at Old Catton Recreation Ground and at other clubs in two Leagues. We are a long established Club founded in 1906, and we play bowls for the fun of the game. We like to think we are a friendly Club, and would welcome anybody who would like to take up the game; nobody need feel embarrassed, after all we all had to start somewhere.

John Dickerson (Secretary)
Contact: 01603 502370, or j.dickerson1@ntlworld.com

This picture was taken at Potters in 2006 when our Club celebrated 100 years. Unfortunately some have now passed on, but we remain a very happy Club, and anyone would be welcome to join us.

OLD CATTON JUNIOR FOOTBALL CLUB

In our 50th year, having been founded by Pam Page in 1969, whilst winning trophies is fantastic, keeping local children enjoying their football and developing their skills with great coaching and facilities remains our core ambition.

2019 has seen Old Catton Juniors enjoy considerable success including the prestigious John Savage County Cup won by the U16 Tigers, the U15 Tigers winning the 4Sports Trophy, the U14 Pumas the NCYL Championship Winners and the U14 Soul Church the Norfolk Christian League & Cup double winners.

Old Catton JFC has a very healthy future in terms of its youngest teams. The new U6 intake saw a healthy number of players training weekly at Lavare Park. The U7s are a flourishing group and our large U8 and U9 squads set a great example in organisation and enjoyment for their players. Overall the club retains a membership of around 340 local children playing in the famous yellow and blue.

The Club purchased new portable goals for our main pitches at the beginning of last season at significant cost and continue to invest heavily in our pitches at Lavare Park to ensure they are of excellent quality.

Old Catton JFC’s annual events were hugely successful with our tournament in June a superb advert for the Club in spite of the weather. Our Presentation Weekend and Page Cup saw children, parents and guests enjoy a glorious day in the sun.

Our aim remains to ensure that all Club members represent the values of fair play and integrity and to help children at Old Catton JFC and beyond enjoy their football.
OLD CATTON CRICKET CLUB

It has been an interesting and exciting season for the Club. As referred to in our Spring Message we have added to the facilities and the ground is looking very worthy of Alliance standard cricket. In addition to last season’s sightscreens and enclosure, the new score hut and practice mat for the juniors have been used with enthusiasm.

Our 1st Team just missed out on promotion, finishing 3rd in Division 5, but will be out to put that right next season. Our A Team finished a comfortable 4th in Division 3, after their promotion from 4 last year. Our Under 15s side reached the Quarter Finals of the Andy Seeley Trophy. This put us in the top 8 teams in the county at Under 15 level, and certainly one of the best in the Norwich area. We care for our juniors - send them to us and they will reach their potential - and above. We also ran an All Stars programme for children.

We are always looking for new players of all ages, particularly for the adult Sunday side and juniors to take part in the Under 9s softball cricket competition.

We are a friendly family orientated club and would give anyone a real welcome. Why not contact us via our website, http://oldcattoncc.hitscricket.com.

Facebook: Juniors at Old Catton CC, Seniors, Old Catton CC Junior Section, Matt Ambrose, mcjambrose@yahoo.co.uk, and Will Carter WillC363@gmail.com

SallyDuncan, General Secretary, e-mail theduncans2010@hotmail.co.uk

Barry Prime, Chairman OCCC. barryprime@gmail.com

FRIENDS OF CATTON PARK

Have you ever visited lovely Catton Park? Perhaps you have run on a Saturday morning with ParkRun, maybe walked your dog or just gone for a stroll to enjoy time outside in a beautiful natural environment. The Friends are a small, local voluntary group who support the Park by putting on small events in and around the Park. We aim for a mix of outside events to appeal to a broad range of people of all ages. We also host other fund-raising events such as quiz and chip nights.

Our programme for 2020 includes the annual Easter Egg Hunt, our AGM and two quiz nights. We are also planning a 'Daffodil Day' on Sunday 15th March – if you would like to open your garden, however large or small, we would love to hear from you.

The Friends have had a very busy 2019. At our popular Easter Egg Hunt over 150 children searched the woodlands for cardboard eggs, which were exchanged for a chocolate bunny. In the autumn we held our first Outdoor Scavenger Hunt, with over 90 people out and about in the park looking for items such as conkers and acorns. We’ve also hosted two quiz and chips nights. Other events included an early morning bird walk and the very successful Open Gardens event in late May, with sixteen local gardens open to visit. You may have met our lovely volunteers selling refreshments each Saturday at the ParkRun.

In May this year at our AGM we were delighted to give a donation of £2,500 to Catton Park Trust. We hope some of the money will be spent on some sculptures, additional wildflowers and shrubs for the area around Hayman Lodge.

We would like to recruit more members to our committee to help plan and organise our events. We meet every couple of months and would love to have some fresh ideas.

To find out more about the Friends or to join us please contact the Secretary, Gill Renouf, on 01603 484073, email friends@cattonpark.com or visit the website at www.cattonpark.com

POLITE NOTICE

PAVEMENT PARKING

The Parish Council politely request that residents think before parking on the pavement around the village. Whilst it may sometimes be necessary to park two wheels on the pavement, cars that block the pavement can force wheelchair users, parents with buggies and those living with sight loss into the carriageway and oncoming traffic. Section 137 of The Highways Act 1980 states that ‘if a person, without lawful authority or excuse, in any way wilfully obstructs the free passage along a highway, he is guilty of an offence’. The penalty of this offence is a fine. If you see a vehicle that contravenes this Act and wish to report it, please contact your Police Safer Neighbourhood Team. Telephone 101 or e-mail with photographic evidence sntsprowston@norfolk.pnn.police.uk

By taking the time to consider your parking you may be preventing an accident

DOG FOULING

Under a new Public Spaces Protection Order it is illegal for someone to let their dog foul in a public place and not pick it up. The fixed penalty fine will increase from £50 to £100 and the maximum penalty is £1000.

YOU HAVE BEEN WARNED!

If you have witnessed someone not clearing up after their dog and would be willing to give a witness statement please contact Broadland District Council on 01603 430534 or contracts.envhealth@broadland.gov.uk
OLD CATTON RANGER GUIDE UNIT

Do you know a young woman aged 14-18 who is ready for a new adventure with other girls who enjoy a challenge, learning new skills, building confidence and going on residential/camps? Girlguiding has a section specifically for this age group which provide these opportunities and options to volunteer, work alongside your Duke of Edinburgh and other Guiding Awards, which will look great on a university/job application too!

Old Catton Rangers are looking for new members to join their unit meetings on the second and fourth Thursdays of the month. Rangers is a brilliant way to try new things, have fun and give something back to your community. Whether you’re already a member, or are just starting out, we’ll give you a host of opportunities to gain leadership skills, build a network of friends in your area and enhance your CV.

Interested? Contact oldcattonrangers@gmail.com to find out more, or check out more information and register your interest here: https://www.girlguiding.org.uk/what-we-do/rangers/l-about-rangers/

1ST OLD CATTON GUIDES

2019 has been a very full year for the Guides as we have continued with a full Unit of 34 Guides.

The whole Guiding programme was changed in 2018 and we continued to find our feet with the new Unit Meeting Activities and Skill builders while the girls have been encouraged to complete the new interest badges at home. Traditional skills are still part of the programme as part of the ‘Know myself’ theme.

The Guides have enjoyed experimenting with foods by having a ready, steady, cook style evening, played Quidditch with the UEA Quidditch Team, had an indoor campfire and loads of other fun activities.

Outside the meeting place we have had a number of sleepovers and camps, some allowing the Guides to experience camping for the first time and for others it was in preparation for going to the Haarlem Jamborette, a 10 day international camp with 4000 other Guides and Scouts in Holland.

The group headed to Holland over the summer to the Jamborette and took part in loads of fantastic activities such as canoeing, making a RF receiving, geoaching, crafts, pioneering, go kart building and racing and museum trips. The weather was hot and the campsite full of very happy kids and leaders making new friendships, trying new foods and swopping badges.

Thanks to a grant from the Parish Council which allowed us to offer the experience to all our Guides no matter their families financial situation and we spent the weekend camping at Patterson Lodge near Coltishall.

The Unit has been helping out in the community by manning the Poppy Appeal stall in Morrisons and are looking forward to tubing at the Norfolk Snowcentre in December as our Christmas party. Plenty more adventures to be had in 2020.

44TH NORWICH SCOUTS

In 2017, the 44th Norwich Scouts were hosted by the Saint Clemens Scout Group, at the Spejdernes Lejr jamboree in Denmark. This summer saw the return trip, with the Danish Scouts joining the 44th on their summer camp

The camp was themed on Doggerland – the ancient land that existed between England and Denmark, before the North Sea flooded following the end of the last Ice Age. Many of our activities followed this Stone Age theme – including; coastal foraging, preparing fish and rabbits, building tribal shelters, ancient crafts, tribal creation myths, a mammoth-hunters “wide-game”, and a ‘Bone Feast’ ceremony! We also enjoyed hiking in the lovely Norfolk countryside, including achieving the Danish ‘Hike 5km Backwards’ badge!
NEW PARISH COUNCIL WEBSITE

We are pleased to announce the launch of our new upgraded website.

We have given the whole site a total revamp – aiming to provide a point of information for Old Catton. We have included listings for local services such as schools, Doctors, mobile library, clubs and societies as well as Parish information, Council Policies and Finance and details of Council meetings and Newsletters. News and events are also posted on the front page with links to our social media page as well. We’ve even included details of how to report a problem such as streetlights and potholes to local authorities!

Why not have a look and tell us what you think – [www.oldcattonparishcouncil.co.uk](http://www.oldcattonparishcouncil.co.uk)

Tree Planting

Old Catton Parish Council, with the help of the Warden at Catton Park and his group of volunteers, have been busy planting 420 trees at the Recreation Ground. The trees (Hawthorne, Dogwood, Wild Cherry, Silver Birch, Rowan and Hazel) have been donated by the Woodland Trust and are designed to bring year-round colour with beautiful blossoms, bright berries and stunning displays.

Contacting The Clerk’s Office

The Clerk’s Office can be found at the Pavilion at the Recreation Ground, Church Street, Old Catton NR6 7DS and is open to the public Monday to Friday 9am — 4pm.

Telephone: 01603 423880

e-mail:
clerk@oldcattonparishcouncil.co.uk
assistant@oldcattonparishcouncil.co.uk

Parish Council Meetings are held on the second Monday of each month (excluding August) at 7pm at the Pavilion on Church Street. All residents are welcome to attend.

More information is available on the Parish Council noticeboards or website [www.oldcattonparishcouncil.co.uk](http://www.oldcattonparishcouncil.co.uk)

Your Parish Councillors

Mr J Amis: 86 Oak Lane, NR6 7DD  01603 960688

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Mr G Crouch: 202 Spixworth Road, NR6 7EQ  01603 404520

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