I am pleased to report that it has been another successful and challenging year for the Parish Council. Our strong and enthusiastic Council continues to push forward the interests of the Parish and is working hard to achieve the best results possible. I would like to warmly welcome Mr Daniel Elmer and Mrs Judy Leggett to the Council and am confident that they will contribute towards the work of the council for the community in which we serve.

The Parish Council is delighted to have been the driving force behind the Neighbourhood Plan, which sets out the visions and aspirations of the Parish. This Plan has now been adopted by Broadland District Council and now forms part of the local plan thus meaning that it will have to be taken into account when planning decisions are made in Old Catton. The plan can be found on our website. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the community for their support in producing and accepting this Plan; this is your document giving you the opportunity to have your say about what happens in your Parish. In addition to this the Council remains in close contact with the local planning authority and developers to ensure that the needs of the Parish are considered in all future redevelopment. In particular, areas for redevelopment that we have been taking a keen interest in are Beyond Green, Dixons Fold, Repton Avenue and Repton House. The Council has been studying the plans closely in line with our Neighbourhood Plan and ensuring that the Parishes wishes are well heard.

The Parish Council has continued to look for ways to make improvements within the community. Areas identified include the resurfacing of the over 9s play equipment and the fitness equipment at Church Street Recreation Ground, creating a car park outside and installing lighting along the pathway to Hayman Lodge at Catton Park, installing an independent electricity supply to Hayman Lodge and the installation of a wooden structure at the rear of Hayman Lodge to house machinery for the upkeep of Catton Park. The Council is paying for these projects by taking out a loan from Broadland District Council ahead of its allocation of Community Infrastructure Levy as it is considered that the works will improve community usage of both sites.

“Five year plan to provide residents with clear insight of what the Council wants to achieve”

Turning to particular projects that the Parish Council has undertaken I am delighted to say that the council now has its own independent website which we hope will be helpful and informative to our parishioners and readers.

Alongside the Neighbourhood Plan the Council has just adopted a five year strategic plan. The aim of the plan is to provide residents with clear insight of what the Council is trying to achieve and how it expects to deliver this.

The Council continues to support the Sprowston Youth Engagement Project which organises the Old Catton Youth Group in the Parish on a Thursday evening. As part of the Parish Partnership Scheme with Norfolk County Council I am pleased to report that the bus shelters in Lodge Lane and The Paddocks have now been installed and the installation of the TROD footpaths in Swansgate and Woodham Leas should be complete by the time this report goes to print. The SAM2 is proving to be of great use within the Parish and is highlighting some important facts and figures which are being used when talking to the Police and Local Authorities. We have just been given approval for an additional bus shelter in White Woman Lane as part of the new financial years Parish Partnership Scheme.

Finally, I would like to thank my fellow Councillors and the Council staff for their continued hard work during the year.

Bradley Sabberton-Coe
Chairman of the Old Catton Parish Council

Please help us spread the work of the Council.
Don’t forget the Old Catton Parish Council is on Facebook and Twitter. Follow us on http://www.facebook.com/OldCattonParishCouncil or find us on Twitter @OldCattonPC to keep up to date with the latest news or contact the Clerk via these pages.

Bradley Sabberton-Coe
Chairman of the Old Catton Parish Council
The Big Village Tidy Up

The Big Village Tidy Up supporting Keep Britain Tidy took place in Old Catton on Sunday 19th March. The event, organised and supported by Old Catton Parish Council, was advertised to all residents to inspire them to make real and lasting changes to their neighbourhoods and come together to work on initiatives to improve their local environment.

The Council are proud to support the Big Village Tidy Up and Councillors turned out in force to give Old Catton a clean-up with surprising results. Mr Sabberton-Coe, Mr Leggett, Mr Crisp, Mr Honess, Mrs Leggett, Miss Wilkin and Mr Tovell walked Spixworth Road, The Paddocks, Garrick Green, Players Way, Woodland Drive, Proctor Road and Desmond Drive collecting a whopping 10 bags of rubbish from kerbsides and under hedges; more extreme litter finds included pint glasses half full of beer, nappies and full dog poo bags!

Chairman Bradley Sabberton-Coe said “Our aim is to get everyone out and about, cleaning up their community through the year and understanding that small actions can be the start of big changes. We are privileged to live in such a beautiful village, but when you look closely, changes can be made to improve our quality of living.”

The Parish Council would like to thank those who turned up on 19th March and supported the tidy-up and would like to take this opportunity to remind everyone to be mindful of the environment and be responsible in using the appropriate waste bins when disposing of your waste.

The next Big Village Tidy Up will take place again in Old Catton on Sunday 25th June and Sunday 8th October. All those wishing to take part please contact the Parish Council Office on 01603 423880 or check out the website www.oldcattonparishcouncil.co.uk

Lawn bowls

Anglia TV Bowling Club play bowls for fun and leisure at the Old Catton Recreation Ground, Church Street every Thursday afternoon (2pm-4pm) during the Summer. No experience or equipment necessary for those interested in trying the sport, just flat soled shoes! The Club also plays in two afternoon leagues and welcomes league players.

Please just turn up or for further information contact Tony on 01603 478789 or 01603 429905.

Tennis

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

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

Junior cricket

Old Catton Cricket Club offers coaching and competitive cricket in local leagues for both boys and girls with our coaching currently focused on the 10 - 13 age group, but we can cater for various other ages. Please get in touch if your child is interested.

Coaching sessions and/or matches on Tuesdays and Fridays throughout the summer.

Contact us on 07957 903300, email: occc.youth@outlook.com. Visit: www.oldcattoncc.hitscricket.com for more details.

Annual Parish Meeting

You are cordially invited to the Old Catton Annual Parish Meeting to be held on Thursday 18th May 2017 at 6.30pm at the Church Hall, Blacksmiths Way.

The Annual Parish Meeting is your opportunity to hear about activities in the Parish during the last 12 months, to ask questions and to influence and take part in future events.

All residents of Old Catton are welcome. This is YOUR meeting.

For further information please contact the Clerk of the Council on 01603 423880

Pick up a Top Dog pack. These are available from the Parish Council Office or Hayman Lodge.

For further details please visit www.broadland.gov.uk/topdog
Speed Watch

The Parish Council has been collecting data from the SAM2 (speed awareness monitor) camera that has been located around the village. The SAM2 has been located on Spixworth Road, Lodge Lane, Oak Lane, St Faith’s Road and Church Street with further locations planned through 2017. The Council has limited the time the SAM2 is at each location to around four weeks (slightly longer during the Christmas holidays) to ensure that the readings recorded are an accurate average of the road usage by cars. The data results have been very interesting and some very high speeds have been registered at all the SAM2 locations. The graph below shows the speeds recorded against the legal speed limit.

The Parish Council is keen to establish Community Speed Watch and there have been a few enquiries from residents about getting involved. However, this scheme must have a minimum of six volunteers and we currently do not have enough.

Are you tired of drivers not sticking to the speed limit around Old Catton? Are you concerned that individuals are making the roads in Old Catton unsafe? 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, Norfolk Safety Camera Partnership and Norfolk Police, 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 guidelines. Owners of offending vehicles will be written to by Norfolk Police in the first instance, persistent offenders will be targeted for police enforcement.

If you would like to become a volunteer (a minimum of six is required – minimum 18 years of age) please contact the Clerk of the Council on (01603) 423880 or email: clerk@oldcattonparishcouncil.co.uk

If you would like more information on Community Speed Watch Schemes, please contact PC Andy Mason at Sprowston Police Station on 101.

Message from Norfolk Constabulary

Dear Residents.

On your doorstep you are lucky to have the lovely Catton Park, which I and many of you like to enjoy for a walk or run, or to take the dog out for some exercise.

Sadly at a recent meeting between local residents and Police it was raised that a very few people in and around Old Catton are acting in an anti-social manner, being rude and abusive, and in some rare cases causing damage.

I would like to ask for your help. When you are out and about enjoying this excellent amenity, please be aware of the issues I have mentioned and call police on 101 if you notice any anti-social behaviour.

Thank you
Nick Roberts, Sprowston and Old Catton Beat Manager

Got some time to spare?
Do you have some free time on your hands? Feel like meeting new people and embracing new experiences?

Catton Park Trust are looking for new volunteers who can help with the running of Catton Park. Do you have a spare hour to help with organising car parking, or distributing leaflets? Maybe you have time to take tickets on the door, or perhaps you can assist with the litter picking. Any time to spare would be gratefully appreciated.

Please email: office@cattonpark.com if you would like to offer your services as a volunteer.
Catton Park Trust

You should have already seen the flyers through your doors and posters around the village giving details of the proposed events planned at Catton Park this year. As you can see there is a wide variety of events that hopefully will appeal to all residents and visitors to Old Catton and help contribute to the upkeep of our beautiful Park. Events start in April and May with Cinema in the Park; open air cinema showing films that you have chosen – Top Gun on 29th April and Forrest Gump on 20th May. Following this the Trust is hosting the Sheringham Shantymen, Swing in the Park, Alice in Wonderland, Take That Experience, Catton Park Fun Day, Halloween and Christmas Fayre. Free parking within the Park will be available for all events. Tickets for all events are available via www.ticketsource.co.uk/cattonparttrustltd or at the Parish Council Office. For more information please see the website (www.cattonpark.com), Facebook or the noticeboards. The Trust are always looking for volunteers to help with events (stewarding, ticket sales, refreshment sales, etc). If you have some spare time and would like to help at an event please contact the Trust Clerk on 01603 423880 or email: ocpc.deputy@outlook.com

“All works are aimed at making the Park more accessible for users”

You may have noticed some major works taking place at the Park. At the time of writing works will have been carried out to include the installation of a new car park and access road, surfacing of the pathway to Hayman Lodge, repainting of the Lodge and installation of bollard lighting to the Lodge. All works are aimed at making the Park more accessible for all users. Please note that the new car park is for users of Hayman Lodge only – there is no parking within the Park.

There have been a few incidents of anti-social behaviour in the Park. Catton Park is for the enjoyment of all residents and visitors and the Trust asks that you consider all other users whilst using the Park. Cyclists/runners be aware of those moving slower through the Park, dog walkers remember that not everyone likes dogs and that a lead may be necessary whilst exercising your dog. If you are using a drone or similar flying object please be aware of other users and adjust the flight of your device accordingly. The Trust wants everyone to enjoy the Park regardless of your chosen activity.

Don’t forget Hayman Lodge is available to hire for your community groups or for private functions and birthdays. The Lodge has a small kitchen area, disabled toilets, tables and chair available for use, interactive white-board and is located within the picnic area which is a dog free zone. The Lodge is available to hire on an hourly basis – for more information please email: office@cattonpark.com

Here’s to a great summer at Catton Park. Thank you for your continued support.

SYEP Old Catton Spring programme

Old Catton Teen Café will be based at St Margret’s Church Hall on Blacksmiths way until the 4th of May running from 7pm until 9pm. We will then be starting at Old Catton Recreation ground on the 11th and will run there each week until the end of September. Sessions will run from 6:30pm until 9:30pm whilst we are at the Rec.

May
4th Drop in.
11th Old Catton Rec – Rounders and drop in activities (inc outdoor table tennis).
18th Matthew Project drop in – plus normal drop in activities.
25th Drop in activities and football rounder’s.
31st Trip go karting.

June
1st Popcorn and Pizza night.
8th Drop in activities and cricket.
15th Visit from Wild Touch – bringing lots of different animals for you all to meet.
22nd Drop in activities and rounders.
28th Drop in activities and Football rounder’s.

In July we will be booking in lots more activities and trips, plus we will be holding a start of the summer holidays BBQ and end of summer BBQ. Also the drop in nights may be changed for activities delivered by other projects. For more information contact Clare Lincoln email: clyouthworker@outlook.com

Youth group volunteers

Are you looking for a new opportunity? Have you ever been interested in youth work?

We are currently looking for volunteers to help with our busy teen cafes. They run in Sprowston every Tuesday night 6.30pm until 9.30pm and in Old Catton on a Thursday evening 7pm until 9pm until the 11th of May when we move to the recreation ground and we will then run from 6:30pm until 9.30pm.

All volunteers’ posts are subject to an interview, DBS checks and a minimum of two references. All volunteers will gain training, a level one youth work qualification and will be required to attend safer training. We will also help support further training and there is the opportunity for paid work in the future. You not have to commit to every week.

Please get in touch if you are interested - email: clyouthworker@outlook.com
The Friends of Catton Park

Our next event is the AGM on Tuesday 6 June, with a guest speaker, followed by refreshments. All members and visitors are welcome, although visitors will not be able to vote at the AGM. Are there any events you would like to see in the park - if so we are looking for new committee members with fresh ideas! If you are interested do contact us or pop along to the AGM where we will be delighted to chat to you over a glass of wine.

Other planned events include a Fairy and Elf Trail in late summer. This is a very enjoyable afternoon for families. Later in September we will have a stall at the Catton Park Fun Day with lots of information about the Friends and some fun activities - hope to see you there! In November we’ll be hosting the ever popular Quiz and Chips. Our last few quizzes have been sold out so book your places early!

Looking ahead to next year we are planning some events to mark the 200th anniversary of Humphry Repton’s death. Catton Park is thought to be Repton’s first paid commission - he went on to become a very successful landscape designer, famous for his work at Sheringham and across the country.

At the start of 2017 we were delighted to be able to present a cheque for £3,000 to the Trust. This money will go towards the costs of keeping this beautiful space open to the public. Also we purchased a defibrillator for the Park, which is kept in Hayman Lodge. This year we’ve already held a very successful Quiz Night and a fabulous Easter Egg Hunt. Over 140 children enjoyed searching for cardboard eggs in the woodland which were exchanged for a chocolate bunny and a bun. For the first time the hunt included a decorated Easter Bonnet or Hat competition - the standard of entries was very high and it was a challenge to choose winners. Adult refreshments were also on sale and the home made cakes went down very well! We’d like to say a very big thank you to all who support our events either by coming along or volunteering to help out. We couldn’t do it without you.

Did you know that if you recycle your glass at one of the bottle banks around the village this will provide much needed money for the Park? We realise it is much easier to pop your glass into the grey bin but please think about taking your glass, paper and textiles next time you go to the shops at Morrisons. Glass banks can also be found at the Maids Head and Woodman pubs and at the Old Rectory Hotel at Crostwick. In 2016 over £2,000 was raised for the Park, so every jar and bottle helps.

If you would like to join the Friends or just find out more about us please contact Karen on 01603 423125 or Gill on 01603 484073 or email: friends@cattonpark.com

Members receive regular newsletters so are the first to know about our events. We advertise all events on the website at www.cattonpark.com in the Parish magazine, on posters around the Park and village and on Facebook and Twitter.

Parish Council Survey

The flow (and speed) of traffic through Oak Lane has significantly increased. The Parish Council are considering options to alleviate this problem and welcome Parish opinion on two suggested schemes. There is an online survey available for you to complete: use the following link - https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/KQMYL66

Alternatively, paper copies of the survey are available from the Parish Council Office at the Recreation Ground. Thank you for your support.
Polite notice

With the installation of a baby changing unit and bin in the disabled toilets at The Pavilion may we respectfully request that parents refrain from putting soiled nappies into the public bins within the Under 9s play area. These bins are for the disposal of domestic waste (such as drinks bottles, confectionery wrappers, paper, etc) only.

We would be most grateful if you would use the nappy disposal bin provided in the disabled toilets for the clean and hygienic disposal of nappies. We thank you for your consideration.

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 per year.

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

Honorary Villageperson Award

Do you know of a person in our community who has given voluntary services of a diverse and outstanding nature to the community and has made a beneficial contribution to the life of the community? Old Catton Parish Council want to honour these outstanding residents of Old Catton with an Honorary Villageperson Award.

- If you know of any individual who deserves recognition for their selfless volunteering please contact the Parish Council Office on 01603 423880 for more details. All nominations will be treated in the strictest confidence.

Requests for grants

Are you a member of or do you attend any of the following: nursery, mum and tots group, sports club, pensioner club, art club, charitable organisation, voluntary group, etc?

Does your group need extra funding?

If you do then Old Catton Parish Council could help! Old Catton Parish Council is able to financially assist non-profit making organisations within Old Catton where, in the Council’s opinion, the money granted would greatly benefit the residents of Old Catton as a whole.

It’s not difficult to apply and you could receive the funding boost your organisation desperately needs.

- If you would like some more information or just want to ask a question about grants please contact the Clerk on 01603 423880 or email: clerk@oldcattonparishcouncil.co.uk

Old Catton Twinning Association

Check out the Twinning web site for history, information on past visits and the exciting plans for 2017. New members are always welcome - phone Richard/Ann Moore on 01603 400690 or Judy Leggett on 01603 429986 or email: oldcattontwinning@gmail.com

PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS are held on the 2nd Monday of the month at 7pm at the Pavilion, Recreation Ground, Church Street. All Old Catton residents are welcome; a copy of the Agenda is posted on the Old Catton website. Please contact the Clerk of the Council for further information on (01603) 423880.

YOUR PARISH COUNCILLORS

Mr J Arnott 210 St. Faiths Road, NR6 7AG t: (01603) 429512
Mrs A Chandler The Croft, 60 Church Road, Swainsthorpe, NR14 8PR t: (01508) 470388
Mr P Crisp 61 The Warren, NR6 7NF t: (01603) 415327
Mr D Elmer 22 Marauder Road, NR6 6HD t: 07575 578972
Mrs L Fawke 60 Spixworth Road, NR6 7NF t: (01603) 400882
Mr B Honess 1 Colkett Drive, NR6 7ND t: (01603) 419943
Mr B Leggett 30 Garrick Green, NR6 7AL t: (01603) 429986
Mrs J Leggett 30 Garrick Green, NR6 7AL t: 07729 121683
Mr B Palmer 45 Catton Chase, NR6 7AS t: (01603) 465514
Mr B Sabberton-Coe 62 Garrick Green, NR6 7AN t: (01603) 483976
Mr R Tovell 136 Proctor Road, NR6 7PH t: (01603) 414206
Mr M Vincent 4 Colkett Drive, NR6 7ND t: (01603) 485460
Miss P Wilkin Church Barn, Swash Lane, Rackheath, NR13 6QT t: (01603) 781050

www.oldcattonparishcouncil.co.uk