



PHASE 1 CONSTRUCTION – FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. Why is part of the Recreation Ground closing?

The closure is necessary to ensure safety during construction. Heavy machinery, open excavations and restricted zones present hazards that cannot be safely managed with public access.

2. Why can't the car park stay open?

The car park sits directly beside the construction compound, presenting significant safety risks. It must be secured and closed.

3. When will the work start?

The planned start date is 16th March 2026. The works are expected to last approximately 16 weeks, though this may extend.

4. What improvements are being made?

Phase 1 provides new changing rooms, new public toilets, improved accessibility, and upgraded facilities for clubs, youth groups and the wider community.

5. Which areas will be closed?

Church Street entrance, car park, Pavilion building, public toilets, MUGA, tennis courts, the Under 9s playground, gym equipment, table tennis, tennis courts and access to the green space from Church Street.

6. Which areas remain open?

Green space, woodland, Over 9s playground. Access to the Recreation Ground via Garrick Green pedestrian entrance only.

7. How can the public access the Recreation Ground?

Through the Garrick Green pedestrian gate only. Visitors are asked to park considerately and respect residents.

8. Will this affect journeys to Old Catton Junior School?

Yes. The Recreation Ground Church Street entrance and car park will be closed and construction vehicles active. Parents are asked to park safely and plan journeys carefully.

9. Will clubs and groups be affected?

Yes. Some activities will continue with restricted access; others will pause or relocate. Hirers are being contacted individually.

10. Will toilets be available onsite?

No public toilets will be available during construction.

11. What if the works take longer?

The community will be kept informed. Delays may occur due to weather, ground conditions or supply issues.

12. What alternative green spaces are available?

Catton Park.

Lavaré Park U9s playground (located off Austin Way).

Green space at Woodham Leas/Priors Drive.

Green space at Oakfield Gardens.

Playground and green space at Repton Avenue.

13. How will updates be provided?

Via the Parish Council website, social media, noticeboards, and the public meeting.

14. What should residents do about parking or behaviour concerns?

Illegal parking and aggressive behaviour should be reported to the Police. Visitors to the area are asked to park responsibly and act considerately toward others.

15. Why are the works being undertaken at this time?

Unfortunately, the timeline is beyond Parish Council's control. The funds are allocated by District Council to be spent in a set timeframe.