

OLD CATTON PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING,
HELD AT 7.00 PM ON THURSDAY 16th MAY 2019
AT THE CHURCH HALL, BLACKSMITHS WAY

PRESENT: Mr B Sabberton-Coe — Chairman
Mr R Tovell— Vice-Chairman
Councillors – Mrs A Chandler, Mr B Honess, Mr D King, Mr B Palmer,
Mr M Vincent, Mr S Walker, and Miss P Wilkin

Mrs K Vincent – Norfolk County Councillor and Broadland District Councillor
Mr K Leggett – Broadland District Councillor
Mr S Vincent – Leader of Broadland District Council
Mr R Tupper – Norfolk Constabulary
Ms S Vincent – Clerk to the Council
Organisations – Girl Guides, Old Catton Horticultural Club, Old Catton Cricket Club, Italian Club, Friends of Catton Park
123 residents (reduced to 23 residents following Repton Avenue Development discussions)

APOLOGIES: Councillors – Mr J Amis, Mr G Crouch, Ms Y Gowers and Mr G Tingle
Mrs Chloe Smith - MP
Organisations – Wensum Bowls, Country Walks, Old Catton Evening Women's Institute, Old Catton Junior Football Club, Old Catton Women's Group

1. WELCOME

The Chairman welcomed everybody to the Annual Parish Meeting.

2. PUBLIC DISCUSSION – REPTON DEVELOPMENT

Councillor K Vincent opened discussions with an outline of the current situation regarding the Repton Avenue Development – Construction Traffic planning application. Approximately 120 people had commented to Broadland District Council on the application and approximately 500 people had signed the petition. Following a show of hands Councillor K Vincent explained the various Options for the construction traffic routes. Councillor K Vincent stated that Norfolk County Council Highways were now supporting Option 1 (via Meteor Close), Planning Officer at Broadland District Council would be recommending Option 1. Councillor S Vincent explained the planning process to residents. Questions arising from the discussions were:

- a. Understanding that the East-West Link Road should have been started at the "other end" (ie from North Walsham Road). Why was this not now the case;
- b. Will the construction traffic remain for the duration of the development;
- c. What will happen in the long-term for traffic through Old Catton;
- d. Is there an option for retaining Meteor Close open for new resident traffic from the new development;
- e. Why was there no consideration to bring traffic from the NDR to the new development;

It was highlighted that the Parish Council was not a decision-making body. It was agreed that developers will "promise the earth" but that the reality is what we have and what will come in time. Councillor S Vincent highlighted that the Local Plan was currently being agreed up to 2036 – residents should be aware of the Plan and comment accordingly before it is finalised. Residents were encouraged to take photos and report any breach of Conditions to Enforcement at Broadland District Council; residents were best placed to "catch" construction traffic in breach of the Construction Traffic Route. Environmental

concerns (hedges, birds, wildlife) were raised by one resident; Councillor K Vincent highlighted the Old Catton Neighbourhood Plan contains Environmental Policies for new development in Old Catton. Linear Park was highlighted as an environmental corridor through the development. It was confirmed that Condition states that the developer is responsible for the temporary changes to Meteor Close and responsible for returning to its original condition once development is completed. One resident raised concern over Notice of Planning Application for x3 houses on St Faiths Road at point where hedge had been removed. No planning application had been submitted to Parish Council and no Councillors were aware of potential application. It was AGREED that this planning application would be investigated.

3. PUBLIC DISCUSSION – NORFOLK CONSTABULARY

PC Russ Tupper stated that, since taking position in January 2019, Safer Neighbourhood Action Panel priorities were speeding and school parking in Old Catton and Sprowston West. More pressing matters had overtaken these priorities – Mountbatten Drive in particular. Norfolk Constabulary had carried out presentations in schools (Sprowston Academy), were carrying out high-vis patrols in the area particularly Barkers Lane and St Faiths Road and had held x2 police surgeries at the Pavillion following the incident which were poorly attended. It is planned to hold further drop-in surgeries at Sprowston Library and the Pavillion Old Catton. Recent arrest at Three Corner Drive was an example of residents working with the Police and reporting unusual occurrences. PC Tupper is currently also covering Thorpe and Hellesdon so resources are stretched at present. PC Tupper reiterated his email address should residents have any queries or information they wish to discuss.

Residents raised the following issues:

- a. Swansgate. Parking near school gate blocking bottom of road and resident's driveway. Area has no parking restrictions so limited what can be done.
- b. St Faiths Road. Incidents of buses speeding. PC Tupper explained this was a difficult road to use the speed gun as there were no safe areas to stop drivers and give a caution.
- c. Lodge Lane. Speeding. Community Speed Watch are unable to carry out checks on 20mph roads. Resident requested that SAM2 results be published on the Parish Council website. It was highlighted that SAM2 results are shared with Highways and the Safer Neighbourhood Action Panel.

PC Tupper highlighted that there was an increase of vehicle break-ins at Catton Park and in Sprowston. PC Tupper reiterated to residents to keep valuables out of sight when dog walking. Finally, PC Tupper stated that the next Safer Neighbourhood Action Panel meeting (scheduled for 22nd May) was cancelled. New date was to be confirmed.

4. **THE MINUTES** of the meeting of 17th May 2018, which had been circulated, were confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

2. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

The Chairman's report, which had been circulated, was accepted.

3. ACCOUNTS OF THE YEAR ENDING 31.03.2019

The un-audited accounts were accepted. The Clerk stated figures for year ending included precept income so were inflated compared to previous financial year. However, expenditure was lower than previous year and savings had been made.

4. REPORTS OF REPRESENTATIVES AND ORGANISATIONS

A written report was submitted by the Old Catton Evening Women's Institute, a copy of which is attached to the official minutes.

A written report was submitted by Catton Park Trust Ltd, a copy of which is attached to the official minutes.

A written report was submitted by the Old Catton Society, a copy of which is attached to the official minutes.

A written report was submitted by Old Catton Village Hall, a copy of which is attached to the official minutes.

A written report was submitted by Old Catton Horticultural and Flower Arrangement Club, a copy of which is attached to the official minutes.

A written report was submitted by Old Catton Bowls Club, a copy of which is attached to the official minutes.

A written report was submitted by the Old Catton Walking Group, a copy of which is attached to the official minutes.

A written report was submitted by Wensum Bowls Club, a copy of which is attached to the official minutes.

A written report was submitted by Old Catton Junior Football Club, a copy of which is attached to the official minutes.

A written report was submitted by Old Catton Cricket Club, a copy of which is attached to the official minutes.

Norfolk County Council Annual Report 2018/19 was submitted, a copy of which is attached to the official minutes.

Verbal report was received from Friends of Catton Park. Continue supporting the Park by running refreshments at ParkRun. Recently hosted Easter Egg Hunt; raised approximately £500; this was achieved with the help from the Guides; it is difficult to get volunteers to help with events. Next event is Open Gardens on 26th May. Annual meeting will be held on 28th May. Thanks to all who support the Friends.

Verbal report was received from the Parish Charity. Sincere thanks was given to Mr J Aldridge for his hard work running the allotments. Thanks was also given to those allotment holders who have helped with hedge cutback, skip supervision. Recent work to the entrance gate, using S106, has made entering/leaving the allotments significantly safer and easier. Currently have one vacant plot and no waiting list. Plot fee is currently £15 per year.

Verbal report was received from Girl Guiding Association. Currently run activities x4 nights a week – x3 Brownies groups at Hayman Lodge, Guides and Rainbows at Church Hall and Rangers and Rainbows at Village Hall.

Additional verbal report was received from Old Catton Cricket Club. The Club gave thanks to the Parish Council for their support. The Club has gone from strength to strength.

Broadland District Councillor K Leggett stated that Annual Meeting will be held on 21st May. Councillor K Vincent has been nominated Chairman of Broadland District Council. Councillor K Leggett stated drop-in surgeries continued to be held at Morrisons on first Saturday of every month, from 10.15am – 11.15am.

Norfolk County Councillor and Broadland District Councillor K Vincent gave an update of current issues: gas main works due to start on Lodge Lane on 24th June – 25th September; work on St Faiths Road and Fifers Lane will commence in October until beginning November; footpath resurfacing on Billing Close and Proctor Road is still outstanding; replacement VAS on St Faiths Road will hopefully be soon resolved.

5. PUBLIC DISCUSSION

A resident questioned the timetable for the new community centre survey and public consultation and requested assurance that all Committees would be consulted to ensure new facilities do not take income from other venues. It was explained that the survey launch was 16th May and date for survey deadline had not yet been set. Full consultation with all Committees will be carried out.

A resident requested that pigeon 'blocks' be placed across the top of the swings at Recreation Ground to discourage pigeons perching.

A resident highlighted the lack of clear school signage on St Faiths Road near Hall School and requested support from the Parish Council and District Councillors in requesting additional signage from Highways.

A resident highlighted the poor condition of the Recreation Ground car park. Clerk informed resident that medium and long term repair to car park were under consideration by Parish Council, additional funding using S106 for works had been approved by Broadland District Council.

A resident asked whether village signs for Old Catton could be considered to clearly identify the village boundary.

A resident asked if street light timer could be altered for streetlights on Splixworth Road.

Finally, a resident praised and thanked those residents present, the Parish Council and staff and Councillors for the effort and support given to the community.

There being no further business the Chairman thanked everybody for attending and closed the meeting at 9.00 pm.

Chairman, 2020



CATTON PARK TRUST LIMITED

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

Clerk to the Trust: Ms Sarah Vincent

www.cattonpark.com

Tel: 01603 423880

E:mail: clerk@oldcattonparishcouncil.co.uk

2018 was the bicentenary of Humphry Repton's death and as Repton's first commission Catton Park was firmly placed "on the map" of those interested in historical sites. A number of events took place throughout the Spring and Summer; starting with the wheelbarrow trail and ending with the Heritage Open Day – attendance and press coverage for all events was good. The Trust consider the Park's participation in "Celebrating Repton" a great success.

You may have noticed our 2018 Green Flag flying on the new flagpole outside the Oak Lane entrance to the Park. The Green Flag Community Award recognizes and rewards well managed parks and green spaces, setting the benchmark standard for the management of recreational outdoor spaces across the UK and around the world. We are extremely proud that Catton Park was awarded a Green Flag Community Award for 2018. Assessment for this year's Award has already been carried out and we are hopeful to add the 2019 flag to our collection. All fingers crossed until the announcement in July.

The Trust chose to have fewer events during 2018 – Open Theatre (Journey to the Centre of the Earth), Heritage Open Day, the annual Fun Day and Spooks & Sparks in the Park. Unfortunately the weather was against us in October and attendee numbers for Spooks & Sparks were lower than previous years. Events for 2019 include Wonderland Circus (May) Jungle Book Outdoor Theatre (July), Fun Day (July), Outdoor Cinema (August) and Sparks in the Park (October). Please see our website www.cattonpark.com for more details. We very much hope residents will support these events.

Funds raised through glass and paper recycling, using the recycle banks at Morrisons, The Maids Head PH, The Woodman PH and The Old Rectory Crostwick have steadily increased and the Trust received £3,912.02 income from recycling credits this financial year. This is thanks to the efforts of Old Catton residents recycling their glass and paper at the various recycling points around the village and the Trust are very grateful to those residents who choose not to use their home bin to raise funds for the Park. Issues with fly-tipping at the start of the year did occur and the Trust would request that you remember it is only glass and paper that should be left at these recycle points; all other rubbish, including cardboard, should be disposed of correctly via the recycling centre.

We continue to receive support from Natural England through guidance and grant funding. Essential park management, including tree planting, for the long-term maintenance of the Park forms part of this funding. Promoting educational outdoor space following national curriculum is also of importance and is included within this grant funding also. 2018 saw a total of x7 schools and children's groups using this free facility, with children enjoying a number of activities such as nature trails through the woods, bug hunting, pond dipping and orienteering at the Park. These educational visits help provide essential funding to the Park – if you are linked with any schools or organised groups and are interested in using this free facility please contact the Clerk's office.

Grant funding from Broadland District Council came to an end this year with the receipt of a final lump sum. The Trust thanks Ken Leggett for his work negotiating this grant over the years. Our thanks also to Old Catton Parish Council who have also provided grant funding towards the management of the Park. We are grateful to Broadland District Council and Old Catton Parish Council for the support they provide.

Community usage of Hayman Lodge continues to increase with the Lodge booked every weekday evening and most weekends. Users of the Lodge include Brownies, Mini Professors, home education groups, Yoga, Pilates, bushcraft, wellbeing classes and forest schools. Ad-hoc hiring for birthday parties, family celebrations, work events and even wedding blessings has also increased. The income from these hirings ensures that the Lodge "runs itself" and any additional income is channelled into park management.

With the loss of the Broadland funding 2019 is the year to consider the long-term sustainability of Catton Park. New avenues of grant funding will need to be sought. Fundraising events at the Park do help contribute towards the running costs of the Park but only if they are supported by the community. Your support of Catton Park is vital to help the Trust maintain this beautiful village asset.

Finally, we must thank the Friends of Catton Park for their support and tireless effort to promote the Park as a place for all the community with events and activities aimed at all ages. Fund raising carried out by the Friends contributed to a £1,000 donation which has been used to purchase an event gazebo for use by the Trust and the Friends and security gate across the main drive.

Bradley Sabberton-Coe
Chairman of Catton Park Trust Ltd

Old Catton Evening W.I.

Our first meeting was held on 8th April 1919, so this year is our centenary. That year over 70 members joined and this year we still have a membership of 60 members. 18 of whom have been awarded long service certificates, including 10 for over 50 years.

We still adhere to the ethics of the movement, with enlightenment from our monthly speakers, learning new skills by entering competitions but the main advantage to our members is the support, friendship, and enjoyment we give each other at all times.

We have many exciting events planned for our important year. In February we had our beautiful 100th birthday cake, baked by a member and enjoyed by all marking our inaugural meeting. At our March meeting we were surprised and honoured to be visited by the Chair of the National Federation, Lynne Stubbings. We are holding our April meeting at Stower Grange with a Birthday dinner for all our members and guests from Norfolk federation. We will be entertained by Martyn Shults singing songs from the musicals. May's meeting is a 60's themed night where we can dress up, listen to 60's music and reminisce of past times, which should be very interesting and amusing.

Other events during the year are planned, like a garden party and outings which are still to be finalised, but the year will end with our usual successful Christmas party.

We have many off shoot groups in which to socialise, Darts, Ten pin bowling, gardening, singing, walking and often join up with local WI's for outings and events. We hope to soon start up a craft group where we plan to make a replacement banner as our original one is over 80 years old.

This year's Norfolk Federation Annual Meeting was held at the Theatre Royal, where we received our 100 year certificate from the National Chair of WI and were then thoroughly entertained by Pam Ayers and Peter Wilson. In April we attended the Thanksgiving service at the Cathedral where we paraded with our banner along with 80 Institute banners from all over Norfolk. A wonderful spectacular. The WI choir sang beautifully and the speeches were very moving. So far it has been an eventful year with more exciting events to come.

Our normal meetings are held on the third Wednesday of each month in the village hall starting at 7.30pm. We are keen to welcome any new members to our friendly and very active group, where tea, refreshments and socialising is a very important part of our meetings.

Lorna Brigden. President Old Catton Evening Women's Institute

OLD CATTON SOCIETY

The Old Catton Society meets every third Thursday in the village hall and have some very interesting speakers.

The membership has dropped slightly due to the aging population which accounts for most of our members.

We are always welcoming to new members. The cost of membership is £12 for the year which is very good value as not only do you meet friends, listen to speakers but the evenings are rounded off with a cup of coffee and biscuits.

The pond in Parkside Drive is owned by the Society which tries to maintain it and it is accessible to everyone

The Committee looks forward to meeting you.

Secretary

Barry Leggett

OLD CATTON VILLAGE HALL

The Village Hall is a grade 2 listed building and is well kept both in and outside. Over the years the Hall and the surroundings have been much improved,

The Hall is used daily especially by the playgroup. Other users are the Horticulture Club, W. Institute, Old Catton Society, the Rainbows, G. Guides, Yoga and Extend (keep fit) .

It is hired out for parties of all types on Saturdays . There are vacancies to hire Monday and Tuesdays after 3.30pm and Fridays after 6.30pm

Secretary

Barry Leggett

OLD CATTON HORTICULTURAL AND FLOWER ARRANGEMENT CLUB

Annual Report 2019

Over the past year all our monthly meetings, which are held in the Village hall on the first Wednesday evening of each month except for August, have been well attended. We have had a wide variety of speakers and topics over the past year all of which have been well-received. It is lovely to see an increase in membership (we had to close our membership temporarily last year) and many of our newer members are participating in the monthly competitions and shows. The club currently has a membership of 75 and an average attendance at meetings of 55.

We held two excellent Shows again in the Church Hall, which were both well supported with increased entries and entrants and an increase of visitors to our recent Spring Show. The shows are a big part of the Club as they provide an opportunity to demonstrate members' skills against the national standards of the RHS, to showcase to visitors and other members the wide variety of plants that members grow, as well as to show the community what our club does. The Judges, who are National and Regional judges always comment on the high standard of the entries and the high standard of presentation of the Show. That does not happen by accident but is due to the dedication of the committee and members. The Plant and Cake Sale last May was linked to the Repton event and was very popular and financially successful too. This was due to the support it received from those who donated plants, cakes crafts, etc. and also the many helpers who gave up their time before during and after the sale.

The Summer BBQ was held on a beautiful summer's evening in a member's garden and was enjoyed by all those who attended. To allow for greater numbers the Christmas Social was held in St Margaret's Church hall in December and was also well attended despite the late change of day to a Saturday.

We also had a selection of 'members' Open gardens' during the summer but have decided to 'rest' this for this year.

We organised a day coach trip to the Ely Flower Festival, an afternoon visit to the lovely garden of Dunbeaghan and an informal visit to Stody Lodge.

This year our day trip will be to Bressingham Gardens, and there will be afternoon trips to Chestnut Farm and Gooderstone Water Gardens.

Another exciting venture is that we have become affiliated to the Norfolk and Norwich Horticultural Society. This means that members of our club are entitled to attend their meetings, trips and events at member's rates. The new President is Adrian Bloom from Bressingham Gardens and he is very keen to engage with the affiliated societies and to promote horticulture throughout the county.

Although we have a common interest in Gardening in its' widest sense we also have a reputation for being a very social and welcoming group. We have a strong committee and good support for all our activities and all this helps to make ours a thriving gardening club when many others are struggling.

The Old Catton Bowls Club

The Club plays at the Recreation Ground, Church Street throughout the summer. We had a very successful 2018 season with increased membership: leisure sessions, knockout competition and friendly matches were all well supported and in competition we finished 6th in the Pensioners League and won our division of the Yare League. During the season the membership were pleased to make Tony Jones an Honorary Life Member in recognition of his three decades of service with the club!

The 2019 season has started well with the clubhouse newly repainted and with a full complement of members. We commenced playing on a sunny Thursday April 18th and as well as the leisure sessions and league matches we have also played two friendly matches, with more planned.

You can find us on Thursday afternoons when we socialise and play for fun! So if you would like to know more about lawn bowls why not come and meet us.

For more information please contact John Nuthall - 01603 466686 or Tony Butcher - 01603 429905.

Old Catton Walking Group

This group is open to all residents of Old Catton, who are welcome to walk as frequently or infrequently as they wish. The monthly walks are usually four to five miles long; we are experimenting with two walks this year in May and July. Some walks are fairly local, others are up to twenty miles from Old Catton. Most walks take place on a Monday or Tuesday morning, when we finish with a lunch (optional), but there are also usually two evening walks and two Sunday afternoons walks each year. Last year we had eleven walks (August had to be cancelled) and numbers walking ranged from nine to thirty-three, with an average of about twenty-three.

The group is twenty years-old in June this year. Further information, if required, from Roger Campling (01603 426585).

Wensum Bowls Club

Please pass on the thanks of Wensum Bowls Club for the way the Parish Council look after us.



OLD CATTON JUNIORS FC



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SECRETARIES REPORT 2018/2019

Another season has drawn to a close. This is the 50th season since the club was formed by Pat Page and her husband in 1969 and to mark the event there will be a formal gathering of old players at the club's presentation evening in May when it is hoped Mrs Page will be in attendance.

This season the club had 22 teams completing in the Norfolk Combined Youth League and 2 in the Norfolk Christian League. We also had 30 players at under 7 and another 25 at under 6 training at Lavare Park on a Saturday morning. The main highlight of the season was the under 16 Tigers who won the Norfolk County Football Associations John Savage Cup winning 1-0 against old rivals Taverham which was played at the FDC Bowthorpe. The under 11 Lions have also had a successful season even though they are playing a year up from their age group. They are in the final of their age group in the league cup, as are the under 9 Tigers and under 10 Pumas. The under 8s have had 4 teams this season, playing all their home games on the 3G at the FDC Open on Salhouse Road. This has proved a great success and has meant the hiring fee was half the cost should they have played at Catton Rec. The disappointment has been or two under 17 teams, Yellows and United. There has been a lack of commitment from players of both teams, with too many call offs and lack of interest. The reason, they have found out about night life on a Saturday night, and don't want to get up on a Sunday morning, working, and a general lack of enjoying playing. On the positive side the number of young players at under 6 and under 7 continues to grow. It is refreshing to see the enjoyment and enthusiasm these young players get out playing on a Saturday morning at Lavare Park as well as their coaches. The club has spent quite a lot of money ensuring the pitches at Lavare Park are of a high standard and they have been quadriplaned regularly over the season. The decision by the club to invest £5000 on two sets of portable goals was a wise decision and as a result the goalmouths have shown less wear than in previous years due to less playing in the goal areas. The club had enough room to mark out a 5v5 Mini Soccer match at Lavare Park this season which has been very beneficial for the under 7 group. As a result of that next season there will be another Mini Soccer pitch at Lavare Park which will mean that after 50 years the club will not be using Catton Rec. The main reason being to utilise Lavare Park and save the club over £1000 in hire fees and the problem with parking on a Saturday morning due to the park runners using Catton Rec car park.

While the club takes most of its income through player registrations it relies on fund raising to pay for the cost of running the club. The bag pack at Morrisons at Christmas brought in over £800 and the

race night in February although poorly supported brought in nearly a £1000. The club made a trading loss this season, however the club does have a healthy bank balance. The cost of running Lavare Park is a big expense to the club and the parents of the players who play for the club must realise that they must support the fund-raising event otherwise the registration fees will have to be increased.

The club will be holding its presentation weekend at Lavare Park on Friday 10th and Saturday 11th May, starting with the under 16s v the Managers with a 6.30pm kick off on the Friday. On the Saturday morning with a 9am we start the Page Cup with the under 6s up to the under 10s playing Mini Soccer against others in their age group. This is followed by the main presentation with all Old Catton Juniors teams collecting awards for their respective age groups.

Overall over the season we have had a successful playing season and made significant improvements to facilities to Lavare Park to take the club forward.

Richard King
OCJ Secretary/Treasurer .

OLD CATTON CRICKET CLUB 2019.

Last year we celebrated 150 years of Old Catton Cricket Club with an Anniversary Dinner and several other events. Though steeped in history, from our origins in the grounds of Catton Hall to our present home at the Recreation Ground, Church Street, we are forever looking to the future. Since attaining Allance Status for our 1st Team, thanks to the good work of our Committee and the Parish Council last year, we have added to our acquisition of sight-screens and a fenced enclosure, with a brand new score hut, and a practice mat for our Juniors.

These are all material things for the enhancement of the ground and cricket, but of course the life-blood of village cricket is - cricketers. We have 3 Saturday and 1 Sunday sides to maintain, plus a Junior team and the All Stars programme for children. If any of you out there would like to join a friendly, family-orientated club, contact us via our website,

<http://oldcattoncc.hitscricket.com>

Face book - Juniors at Old Catton CC, Seniors, Old Catton CC

Matt Ambrose (Junior Section) mcjambrose@yahoo.co.uk

Giles Pickett (Adult Section) gtp@hotmail.com

Sally Duncan (General Secretary) theduncans2010@hotmail.co.uk

Norfolk County Council Annual Report for 2018/19

Budget for 2019/20

In February 2019 Norfolk County Council (NCC) agreed a £409 million revenue budget for 2019-20. This budget is balanced, robust and allocates our resources across Norfolk's people and communities in the best way we can, while protecting frontline services the people of Norfolk rely upon.

Government funding to the Council has reduced by £204m between 2010/11 and 2018/19 and its revenue support grant will fall from £39m to zero in 2020/21. During this period, the Council has made savings of £364m, including efficiency savings of £246m. This has resulted in the difficult but necessary decision to increase the County Council's share of Council Tax by 2.99% this year.

Key points of the budget are:

- £409m net revenue budget – representing Council Tax income which contributes to running the council and its services
- Savings of £31.6m in 2019/20, rising to a total of £79.4m over the next three years
- Examples of increased investment from April'19 include £6m to address growing demand on adult social services, and £14.5m to tackle pressures on the 'Looked After Children' service

Caring for your Infrastructure

£12.7m for road improvements

In November 2018, NCC received an £12.7m from the Government to spend on road maintenance. To date 125,000m² of worn out highway surface has been removed and replaced with 26,600 tonnes of new asphalt.

Greater Norwich Transport funding success

Greater Norwich has been awarded £6.1m by the Department for Transport, following a successful bid for Transforming Cities funding.

'Transport for Norwich' put forward eight sustainable transport schemes and applied for a £7.3m contribution from the £60m pot. Of these, six were awarded money. For details go to:

www.norfolk.gov.uk/transformingcities

Delivering the Western Link

NCC is proposing to create a Norwich Western Link to improve travel between the A47 and Broadland Northway (NDR) and tackle transport problems in the area. The council consulted on four shortlisted options – responses, ecological surveys and environmental information are being considered. A report on the preferred route will be published early July. For more information www.norfolk.gov.uk/nwl.

Norfolk ranked 4th in highways & transport survey

Norfolk has been ranked 4th out of 28 similar councils in a national independent survey which looks at satisfaction with highways and transport services.

The highest scores for Norfolk were for traffic levels and congestion, the condition of roads and footpaths. These are all things that people consistently say are important to them and in which Norfolk is ranked strongly compared to other councils.

Great Yarmouth Third River Crossing

Following a competitive tender process, NCC has awarded the contract for Great Yarmouth's Third River Crossing to BAM Farrans – a joint venture between two construction industry leaders.

BAM Farrans will be working with the project team at NCC to finalise detailed design and construction requirements for the bridge. So far, £98m from the Department for Transport has been awarded to NCC towards the anticipated £120m project cost. For more information go: www.norfolk.gov.uk/3rc

£11m boost for broadband in Norfolk

Thousands more homes and businesses in Norfolk will be able to access Superfast Broadband thanks to NCC securing an extra £11m funding. Currently 92% of homes and businesses have access to download speeds of 24Mbps+ per second.

Better Broadband for Norfolk (BBfN) programme is set to deliver 95% coverage across Norfolk by the end of March 2020. BBfN rollout started in July 2013 when 42% of Norfolk properties had access to Superfast broadband. For more information go to: www.betterbroadbandnorfolk.co.uk

Caring for your Economy

Approach to improving mobile phone signals recognised as national best practice

NCC has received national praise in Parliament for its approach to improving mobile phone signals in Norfolk. The Council's Digital Innovation and Efficiency Committee commissioned a survey on mobile signals across the county.

The results were used to create an interactive map and more than 200 council owned sites have now been identified in areas of poor mobile reception. These are being offered to mobile operators as potential sites for new masts.

Full Fibre boost for Norfolk businesses

NCC secured £8m from the Government Digital, Culture, Media & Sport department's Local Full Fibre Network (LFFN) fund.

The £8m funding is part of an £11m programme to upgrade more than 370 of Norfolk's public-sector buildings to the latest ultrafast connection speeds. This will enable 230 schools, 108 NCC buildings (including 38 libraries) and 34 fire stations to be upgraded to fibre internet connections within two years.

Norfolk businesses can also apply to a voucher scheme that will provide up to £2,500 per business to fund their connection and pay the first-year running costs.

Caring for your Children and Families

New Early Childhood and Family Service

This year NCC launched its new Early Childhood and Family Service. We believe this will have greater reach to those more isolated children and families in need of help and advice, through increased local support, easier to access information and crucial outreach work while continuing

to deliver services previously offered. This commitment means adapting the way we deliver services in response to the changing needs of Norfolk's children and young people.

This transformative approach is one we are implementing across all our services. We will be moving, not removing, some services into libraries, nurseries and community centres, alongside our 15 new service bases. Crucially, this more efficient use of infrastructure means money can be invested on delivering the services that we know are needed and valued by you to a greater number of children and young people, across Norfolk.

£120m investment special school places

NCC is investing £120m in special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) provision in Norfolk.

In March, the Council secured Government funding of up to £17m to build a new 170 place school in the county for children aged 3-19 with complex needs. We proposed plans to create more than 500 extra school places, in four new special schools plus specialist bases at mainstream schools.

NCC has approved an initial investment of £4.8m in the current financial year to allow work to begin as quickly as possible. A new special school, specialising in social, emotional and mental health, is likely to be the first project to get underway. The school will be developed on the former Alderman Swindell School site, in Great Yarmouth.

New homes for care leavers open after £5m investment

The first of eleven homes for Norfolk's care leavers has opened, following £5m of investment from Norfolk County Council. NCC has worked with young people to make sure the accommodation meets their needs and four of the homes are now finished. When finished there will be a total of 25-30 beds across the 11 properties.

Without the new properties the young people would need to live in residential care or in placements with another provider, at a cost of up to £6,500 per week. The new homes ensure they have the right support, are able to learn to live in communities in a supported way and reduce the overall cost to the Council.

Adult Social Care

New services to help ensure no lonely day in Norfolk

People affected by loneliness and social isolation in Norfolk can now turn to a comprehensive range of new services for help and support.

The new services include a county-wide network of "Life Connectors" who work directly with people to provide coaching, practical advice and support to help people make and maintain relationships and strong links within their community.

The new services include:

- outreach, promoting volunteering opportunities and benefits;
- asset mapping and addressing rural issues such as transport; and
- use of technology in order to support people to become and stay well-connected in their local area.

Celebrating the launch of the Carers Charter

The Carers Charter was launched on 30 November at County Hall. The event coincided with Carers Rights Day, a national campaign which brings unpaid carers, organisations and local communities together to help carers understand their rights.

The adoption of the Charter by NCC is a bold, innovative and radical move designed to improve the lives of carers. Carers who constitute an enormous and largely hidden resource saving the public purse billions of pounds a year. For more information go to: carersmatternorfolk.org.uk

Investing £29m in Housing with Care

This year NCC announced a £29m capital investment scheme to deliver housing with care homes for older people in Norfolk over the next ten years. Norfolk requires 2,842 extra care units by 2028. Increasing the provision of extra care housing to match future demand will deliver approximately £4m gross revenue saving per year.

For more information and the Living Well Homes for Norfolk Strategy can be found at: www.norfolk.gov.uk/livingwellhomes

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