

# Old Catton Parish Council

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

Clerk of the Council: Ms Sarah Vincent

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## **Annual Report 1<sup>st</sup> April 2018 – 31<sup>st</sup> March 2019**

Welcome to this year's Annual Report on the activities of your Parish Council.

I am very pleased to have been elected Chairman of Old Catton Parish Council.

It has been a successful and challenging year for the Parish Council. The recent Parish election has brought new members to the Council, all with the common aim of pushing forward the interests of the Parish and working hard to achieve the best results possible for our residents. We are pleased to welcome x5 new members to the Council and look forward to the positive contribution they will bring to the Parish.

We say farewell and thank you to our non-returning members – Mrs Judy Leggett who was our Chairperson since August 2017, Mrs Laura Fawke, Mr Barry Leggett, Mr Daniel Elmer and Mr Alex Jackson-Dennis for their strong contributions to the Council and the community in which we serve.

The Council Office also has a few staff changes and we are also pleased to welcome Mrs Gail Howes to the Clerk's Office as Administration Officer and Mr Ross Hopwood as Recreation Ground Supervisor.

With the development of areas within the village, such as Repton House and Dixons Fold the Parish has received substantial S106 monies to be used to the benefit of residents. These funds differ from community infrastructure funds (CIL) and are allocated to specific areas such as allotments, formal play, sports and green infrastructure. The Parish Council has started to use some of these funds at the Recreation Ground to purchase new gym equipment and tennis nets and support the Old Catton Cricket Club by contributing towards a scoring hut and practice mats and nets. Future projects at the Recreation Ground will include supporting the local bowls clubs by installing water to the bowls hut, supporting the netball teams by installing new floodlights so that they may use the ground to practice in winter and upgrading the changing rooms with electricity and heating. S106 funds have also been made available to improve the gates and some fencing at the allotments, re-surface the kissing gates at Lavaré and green infrastructure projects at Catton Park. More funds remain available and the Parish Council welcomes suggestions from the public for equipment and infrastructure to improve your facilities.

2019 will see the start of house building at the Repton Avenue development. Your Parish Council continues to remain in close contact with the local planning authority and developers to ensure that the needs of the Parish and future residents are considered during the development of this site.

Community Engagement has been at the forefront of your Parish Council's mind both with social gatherings such as Norfolk Day, Heritage Day, Repton 200 and Grow Your Community and with more pressing matters such as planning options for future development. Your Council are keen to ensure that all residents are able to express their views and concerns, via the Council Office in a timely fashion and without prejudice. Raising public awareness of your Councillors, Council Staff and important issues through public engagement is of high importance to the Council. Community events and public consultations are advertised through media outlets such as our website and social media pages together with our newsletter, village noticeboards and in some cases, leaflet drops through residents' doors. We are pleased to announce that we are planning to upgrade the existing Council website to provide a central point of information for all the community on Parish issues and news and aim to provide a website that better serves our community.

Specific projects that the Parish Council has undertaken during this year include a second bus stop on White Woman Lane, installation of benches at the Cemetery and providing space for families to place memorial benches for their loved ones. We are particularly proud of the memorial benches and bins that were installed at the War Memorial – these are a beautiful and fitting reminder of those who gave their lives for us. Additionally, the Parish Council has funded the installation of an additional grit bin at The Warren and, as part of the Parish Partnership, will be funding the installation of bollards outside Old Catton Junior School to ensure the safety of our children when crossing Church Street. The Parish Council continues to support the Sprowston Youth Engagement Project which organises the Old Catton Youth Group in the Parish on a Thursday evening and, with the help of a few dedicated volunteers, has supported the Community Speed Watch Team which endeavours to encourage drivers to maintain the legal speed limit through Old Catton. The Parish Council is proud to announce that the first meeting of the New Community Working Group took place at the end of April – the first step towards a new community centre for all the Parish. A Tree Management Plan has been put in place for the trees at the Recreation Ground, Lavare Park and the Churchyard and extensive tree work has been carried out this year to ensure the woodlands maintained to a high standard. We are pleased to say we have been accepted by Woodland Trust to receive 300 free trees for planting at the Recreation Ground for the ongoing management of the woodland.

Your Parish Councillors continue to be Trustees of Catton Park Trust and we thank you for your continued support by attending the variety of events hosted last year. These events contribute towards the ongoing maintenance of the Park and public support for our "jewel in the crown" Park is vital for future management.

Finally, I would like to thank my fellow Councillors and the Council staff for their continued support, advice and hard work and look forward to their proactive contributions for the next year on behalf of the village and the Council.

Mr Bradley Sabberton-Coe  
Chairman  
16<sup>th</sup> May 2019

## Parish Council Information

Old Catton covers an area of 233 hectares and has a population of approximately 6,108 residents and an electorate of 4,842.

Full Council meetings, which include consideration of planning applications, are held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of each month at the Pavilion, Recreation Ground, Church Street at 7pm.

Agendas can be viewed in the Council offices, on the Parish Council website or on the various noticeboards around the village.

You are able to visit the Council office for help and advice from the Clerk and her staff on local matters, report highways matters, or make requests to view Council records.

Office Address:	The Pavilion, Recreation Ground, Church Street, Old Catton, NR6 7DS
Telephone:	01603 423880
Email:	<a href="mailto:clerk@oldcattonparishcouncil.co.uk">clerk@oldcattonparishcouncil.co.uk</a>
Website:	<a href="http://www.oldcattonparishcouncil.co.uk">www.oldcattonparishcouncil.co.uk</a>
Office Hours:	Monday – Friday: 9.00am – 4.00pm

### Your Parish Councillors

The Parish Council consists of 13 elected members who serve for a term of 4 years. The last Parish Council election took place in May 2019. Councillor details are as follows:

Mr J Amis		
Mrs A Chandler	60 Church Road, Swainsthorpe, NR14 8PR	01508 470388
Mr G Crouch		
Ms Y Gowers		
Mr B Honess	1 Colkett Drive, NR6 7ND	01603 419943
Mr D King	72 Mountbatten Drive, NR6 7PP	07858 626772
Mr B Palmer	45 Catton Chase, NR6 7AS	01603 465514
Mr B Sabberton-Coe	62 Garrick Green, NR6 7AN	01603 483976
Mr G Tingle		
Mr M Vincent	4 Colkett Drive, NR6 7ND	01603 485460
Mr R Tovell	136 Proctor Road, NR6 7PH	01603 414206
Mr S Walker		
Miss P Wilkin	Church Barn, Rackheath, NR13 6QT	01603 781050

### The Council employs 6 members of staff: -

Ms Sarah Vincent	Parish Clerk
Mrs Gail Howes	Administration Officer
Mr Scott Fountain	Groundsman
Mr Colin Franklin	Recreation Ground Supervisor
Mr Ross Hopwood	Recreation Ground Supervisor
Mrs Maureen Wilkin	Recreation Ground Supervisor

## **What does the Parish Council do?**

The Council's main activities are as follows: -

1. The management and maintenance of:

- Church Street Pavilion and Recreation Ground
- Lavaré Park
- War Memorial
- Churchyard
- Cemetery
- Woodham Leas

2. Street furniture such as bus shelters, notice boards and bins.

3. The Council undertakes grass cutting on behalf of Norfolk County Council; in general this is the verges throughout the Parish.

4. Debates local planning applications and passes its comments to Broadland District Council to aid their decision making process.

5. Liaise with both the County and District Councils to maintain and improve their standards of service.