

**OLD CATTON PARISH COUNCIL , MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING,**  
**HELD AT 7.30 P.M., ON THURSDAY 26TH APRIL, 2007,**  
**AT THE VILLAGE HALL, CHURCH STREET**

**PRESENT:** Mr D Thompson – Chairman  
Councillors – Mrs A Chandler, Mr C Green, Mr B Leggett, Mr K Leggett,  
Mr A Lovett, Mrs G Masdin, Mrs A Riches, Mr B Sabberton-Coe,  
Mr M Vincent, Miss P Wilkin,

Sergeant R Thrussell  
Mr M Middleton, Broadland District Council's Community Safety Officer  
7 members of the public

**APOLOGIES:** Mr S Dunn – Norfolk County Councillor  
Mr J Arnott, Parish Tree Warden

The Chairman welcomed everybody to the Annual Parish Meeting.

1. **THE MINUTES** of the meeting of 25th May, 2006, which had been circulated, were confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

2. **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT OF THE PARISH COUNCIL.**

The report was accepted. It would be printed in the next newsletter.

3. **SAFER NEIGHBOURHOODS**

Sergeant Thrussell explained the Government's agenda for Safer Neighbourhoods. It would deal with 'quality of life' issues. The Police would have teams for local areas; Old Catton along with Sprowston, Spixworth and Beeston St Andrew would be one area. The dedicated area Police team would comprise Sergeant Thrussell, a Police Constable and, initially 3 Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs). The PCSOs were currently being recruited and trained and it was hoped that the team would be launched in the area late in September 2007. Priorities would be defined by the neighbourhood, not the Police; issues dealt with would be wide ranging and not just Police issues.

Mr Middleton outlined the ways that the wider community would be involved; it was anticipated that the Safer Neighbourhood team would include representatives of the Parish Council, Broadland District Council, Homewatch and residents. A meeting would be arranged for interested parties to form the team. The team would choose its own leader, probably not a Police officer, and identify problems, prioritise and take action to resolve issues swiftly.

The Chairman invited questions which were answered as follows –

The Safer Neighbourhoods scheme was already running successfully in Great Yarmouth.

The normal Police backup would still be in existence all day and every day. The Safer Neighbourhoods (Police) team would be on duty from 8 am to midnight to give dedicated cover. Each team would be in communication with the usual Police service

by 'Blackberry'. Calls for the Safer Neighbourhoods (SN) team should be made to the usual ) 0845 4564567 number.

The SN officers would only be diverted to work in the city centre on very rare occasions. The problem with slow response time to the 0845 number was being addressed by senior management.

The Chairman invited the meeting to ask other questions of the speakers.

Three residents of Lindley Close had been troubled by anti social behaviour and noise emanating from the Priors Drive amenity land and felt their situation would be helped by the removal of the kicking wall as they felt it provided a focal point for disturbance. They hoped that the Parish Council would support them to resolve the situation by removing the wall. Sergeant Thrussell had already been involved and was attempting to identify the offenders but needed help from the residents to identify them. Mr Middleton had circulated some residents with a questionnaire and forms on which to record times and incidence of anti social behaviour and disturbance. The Parish Council had been consulted by Broadland District Council, who owned the amenity land and wall, and had been unable to agree to the removal of the wall unless another kind of goal was provided in its place. The Clerk had visited the area on four occasions during the recent school holidays and had only found a few children playing in an appropriate way. There was little evidence of heavy use for football or litter.

The Chairman thanked Sergeant Thrussell and Mr Middleton for their presentation and for answering the questions put to them and they left the meeting.

The Chairman invited the public to ask general questions or make comments.

Mr Crisp asked if the Junior Football Club's 'fixture pile up' had been resolved. *It had been noted that although the playing season had been extended full use had not been made of the pitches and listed fixtures had not been played.*

#### **4. ACCOUNTS OF THE YEAR ENDING 31.03.2007**

It was noted that, due to the meeting be held a month earlier than usual, the accounts had not been finalised. The final accounts would be presented to the Parish Council meeting on 24.5.2007. Interim accounts were circulated.

Mr Crisp asked how the increase in the balances was accounted for. *An allowance had been made as a result of the review of Financial Risk Assessments to cover long term, paid sickness of staff and a sum for major projects at the Recreation Ground, which had not been completed, or paid for, had been carried forward.*

#### **6. REPORTS OF REPRESENTATIVES AND ORGANISATIONS.**

Written reports were received from the following – The Twinning Association, the Old Catton Society and the Norfolk County Councillor. Mrs Chandler gave a verbal report of the Parish Charities. The reports were accepted, with thanks.

There being no further business the Chairman thanked everybody for attending and closed the meeting at 8.35 p.m..