**FINAL DRAFT**

**Community Facilities Report**

**1. Neighbourhood Plan Vision**

Northill Parish strives to be a thriving, safe, rural community that people are happy to live, work and relax in, both now and in the future.

The community values the differing needs of existing and future residents and thei opinions in determining what is needed to enable them to benefit from living here.

The community aims to act to protect its heritage environmental assets and unique character whilst considering opportunities for reasonable growth to meet demonstrated local need

**Vision Statements**

Health and well being will be enhanced through the provision of additional community facilities for parishioners of all ages.

The residential and amenity needs of young and older residents wanting to remain in the parish will be met

**2. Neighbourhood Plan Objectives**

* **CFO1.** To identify community facilities as “assets” and encourage their use more widely to ensure their long-term sustainability
* **CFO4.** To encourage a range of play equipment that is suitable for all ages at existing sites.
* **CFO5**. To identify new sites for play areas suitable for a range of play equipment for all ages where none currently exist.
* **CFO7**. To investigate the feasibility of an additional catering outlet for public use

**3. Introduction**

1. **National perspective**

Promoting healthy communities National Planning Framework (2012) covers community facilities in the following sections

“69*. Planning policies and decisions, in turn, should aim to achieve places which promote:*

* *opportunities for meetings between members of the community who might not otherwise come into contact with each other, through mixed-use developments, strong neighbourhood centres and active street frontages which bring together those who work, live and play in the vicinity”*

*“70. Planning policies and decisions should: plan positively for the provision and use of shared space, community facilities and other local services to*

* *enhance the sustainability of communities and residential environments;*
* *guard against the unnecessary loss of valued facilities and services, ,particularly where this would reduce the community’s ability to meet its day-to-day needs;*
* *ensure that established shops, facilities and services are able to develop and modernise in a way that is sustainable, and retained for the benefit of the community”*

*“73. Access to high quality open spaces and opportunities for sport and recreation can make an important contribution to the health and well-being of communities.*

***Planning policies*** *should be based on robust and up to date assessments of the needs for open space, sports and recreation facilities and opportunities for new provision. The assessments should identify specific needs and quantitative or qualitative deficits or surpluses of open space, sports and recreational facilities in the local area. Information gained from the assessments should be used to determine what open space, sports and recreational provision is required.”*

1. **Local Perspective**

The following CBC Local Plan policies apply to development within community facilities

* CBC Local Development Framework (2009). Policy Development Management 4 states that within Settlement Envelopes in Large Villages, small-scale housing and employment uses, together with new retail and service facilities to serve the village and its catchment will be permitted
* The same Policy Development Management 4 (CBC 2009) also states that within Settlement Envelopes, the Unitary Authority will support schemes for health, sports and recreation uses or mixed community and other uses where a need for such facilities is identified through the Infrastructure Audit or up to date evidence. Where no land is available within the settlement, a site adjacent to the settlement may be granted planning permission. Such development should make the best use of available land and lead to more sustainable communities.
* Policy 8 (CB, 2009) recognises the importance of the maintenance of local community assets in stabilising provision of amenities within local communities. It states that planning permission will not be permitted for the change of use or redevelopment of shops or pubs in villages which would result in the loss of such facilities unless there are other facilities performing the same function within easy walking distance of the village community, and the applicant provides evidence that there is no prospect of the use continuing even if permission is refused

Parish Councils

There are 79 Town and Parish Councils in Central Bedfordshire of which Northill Parish Council is one. Their activities fall into 3 main categories

* representing the local community
* delivering services to meet local needs
* striving to improve quality of life and community wellbeing

Through an extensive range of discretionary powers, local Councils provide and maintain a variety of important and visible local services. These are listed at annex 1. **Northill Parish Council** is made up of 12 Councillors and is responsible for grass cutting and maintenance of greens, open spaces and verges within the 30mph limit throughout the parish and managing and maintaining the cemeteries and closed churchyards at Upper Caldecote and Northill. (source [www.bedsparishes.gov.uk](http://www.bedsparishes.gov.uk))

1. **Northill Parish**

The parish has wide ranging facilities for a population, according to 2011 census, of 2270 including 410 children under 16 years (<http://centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/Images/Census%20parish%20profile%20Northill>. Accessed 6.11.15). These are depicted in Table 1. More information about them can be found at annex 2. These facilities have evolved as dictated by the need of residents and the enterprise of local business. Some have existed for many hundreds of years.

**Table 1: Facilities in Northill Parish**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Upper Caldecote** | Methodist Church and Church RoomsAll Saints Church and Church RoomsCaldecote Playing Fields AssociationVillage Green. Garage. Farm Shop. Antique shopPost Office and stores. Caldecote Stores. Caldecote Lower School. Dog Kennels. G&M GrowersDog walking and sitting services |
| **Ickwell** | Village Green. Cricket Club. Maypole. Village HallPreschool. Sports facilities including football |
| **Northill** | St Marys Church and Church Hall Sand LaneNorthill Village Hall. The Crown Public HouseNorthill Lower School. Riding school |
| **Hamlets** | Thorncote: Franklins. Thorncote Green. B&B x 2Bells Brook: Supermarket. Garage. Tidy TipHatch: Hatch Common. CatteryLower Caldecote: Fishery |
| **Other** | A1: Manor Fisheries. Storage Facilities. Car SalesVinegar Hill: Savin’s, Archery Club,  |

**Table 2: Parish groups**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Walk for Health | Scouts |
| School PTA | Rainbow Guides |
| Smarties | Youth Club |
| Ickwell Pre-School | Flower Guild |
| Caldecote Playing Fields Association | Mothers Union |
| Cricket Clubs | Womens Institute |
| Football Clubs | Northill Parish Allotment Association |
| Netball | Friendship Club |
| Coffee & Cake Group | Northill Community Singers |
| Give & Take Time | Speedwatch |
| Northill Community Singers | Northill Parish Allotment Association |
| Northill Amblers | The Peregrine Recorder Orchestra |
| Northill Baby & Toddler Group | Three Green Walk covering Northill, Ickwell & Caldecote |
| Northill & Ickwell Brownies | Northill Church Bellringers |
| Ickwell Pre-School | Dance Club |
| Biggleswade Chronicle Local News Columns  | Maypole Heritage |
| Northil & Ickwell Drama Group | Womens Institute |
| Ickwell Cricket Club – Crib League | Yoga & Pilates |
| Northill & Ickwell WI | Thursday Club |
| Village Scrapbook Collator  |  |

**4. Evidence**

1. During the Spring and Summer of 2015, workshops were held as described in the Consultation Document. Specific issues about community facilities are shown in table 4

**Table 3: Topics on Community Facilities**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Topic** | **Number of Table groups who that commented** | **Summary of aspirations** |
| **New refreshment facilities** | **12** | **Public house** **Café**  |
| **New/improved community building** | **9** | **Community Centre****Additional use of existing venues** |
| **New play facilities** | **24** | **Required at Lower Caldecote, Northill, Ickwell** |
| **Improved play facilities** | **16** | **Required at Upper Caldecote** |
| **New games facilities** | **5** | **Across the parish** |
| **Maintain current assets** | **8** | **School, post office, churches, village halls, PFA, The Crown, Northill, schools, playgroups, maypole, village greens** |

**Table 4: Other relevant comments**

| Comment | Existing and planned services |
| --- | --- |
| Would like a medium size open air swimming pool and larger indoor pool built in fields (3) | Small swimming pool at Caldecote Lower school closed previously. Cost of insurance, limited use during holidays, cost of suitably qualified lifeguards, prospect of vandalism and capital cost to build make it unlikely to succeed. Swimming pool exists in Biggleswade. |
| Want Equestrian Centre (1) | There is riding offered in Northill/Thorncote, Livery on Bedford Rd Northill. Would require a business venture. |
| Want skate park | Skate park being planned for Biggleswade. |
| Want basketball Court | Available at Caldecote Playing Fields |
| Want indoor football pitch (1) | Capital costs, insurance and running/maintenance costs prohibitive. Have two fields in Caldecote, 1 field in Ickwell outdoor |
| Parish campsite to be used for Parish residents. This could be sited on the Northill Parish side of the river Ivel (1) | Area in a flood plain |
| The parish needs a greater variety of shops (2) | Northill Parish is not designed to sustain the sort of business available in Biggleswade. Further shops would decrease the viability of existing businesses which contradicts NP CF01 objective |
| Bakery to be built next to the shop | Advice from existing bakery in nearby town is that a position in Northill Parish would not be viable from a business point of view. However bread can be supplied to local businesses (as it is at the Post Office Stores) or to a community scheme. |
| Want an airport | We have a landing field at Shuttleworth (neighbouring parish of Old Warden). Not enough demand |
| Health Centre in the parish – Pound Corner/crossroads (1) | There would have to be significant new building to make a case for a GP Surgery – minimum 6,000 potential patients. Parish is not big enough and existing residents already registered with Biggleswade, Sandy or Shefford practices. |

1. **Questionnaire**

Further details about the questionnaire can be found in our Consultation Document There were **six** questions in the parish- wide Questionnaire referring to community facilities and these are illustrated in figures 1-2 and table 5 to 7 below.

**Figure 1: Do you feel that additional play areas are required within the Parish?**

Source: Northill Parish Questionnaire

398 parishioners responded to this question which represents 17.5% of the Parish population. This is considered an acceptable return.

**Figure 2: If yes, in which village/hamlet within the Parish would you like to see a new play area located?**

Source:: Northill Parish Questionnaire

This was a multiple choice question with Northill and Ickwell together receiving 84 more votes than the remaining villages and hamlets combined.

**Table 5: Please tell us of any improvements to existing play/recreation areas for adults and children that you would like to see happen? (please tick all that apply)**

Summary

* Play/ leisure facilities in Caldecote could be improved or expanded.
* Play/ leisure facilities in Ickwell could be improved or expanded.
* Outdoor gym/exercise equipment and better sports facilities were suggested.
* Existing school facilities could be further utilised outside of school hours.
* Concerns were raised about hygiene and safety.

Source: Northill Parish Questionnaire

This was an open question the results of which indicated the need for new and improved play/leisure facilities, outdoor exercise equipment for all ages, further use of the school facilities out of hours and attention required to hygiene and safety.

**Table 6: Which of the following do you think we should nominate as an asset of community value?(please tick all that apply)**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Post Office (349) 85% | The Smithy Ickwell Green (176) 43% |
| Parish Village Halls (306) 75% | Medieval Fish Ponds (144) 35%  |
| Parish Schools (276) 67% | Thorncote Green (130) 32% |
| The Crown Pub, Northill (269) 66% | Don't know/ None of the above (10) 2% |
| Parish Churches (261) 64% | Other (20) 5% |
| Peter Maudlin Pavilion (251) 61% | Parish Sports Facilities (245) 60% |

**Table 7: List of recommendations from the 20 “other” respondents**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Recommendation** | **No.** | **Recommendation** | **No.** |
| Ickwell Green Pavilion | 5 | Ickwell Nursery Facility | 1 |
| Ickwell Green | 4 | Greenfield land on edge/within village | 1 |
| Caldecote Green | 2 | All local shops, particularly Butchers at Northill and local produce outlets | 1 |
| Footpaths and Bridleways | 2 | Nurseries | 1 |
| Local Working Farms | 1 | Local Farm Shop Thorncote Green | 1 |
| Land that is not being used and could be transformed by the community | 1 | Small seating area at crossroads Upper Caldecote | 1 |
| Sheep Dip | 1 | Old Methodist Church Hitchin Rd Upper Caldecote (antique shop) | 1 |
| Ickwell Bury | 1 | Village shop Biggleswade Rd Upper Caldecote | 1 |
| Alms Houses Upper Caldecote |  | Post Office Hitchin Rd Upper Caldecote | 1 |
| Land adjoining Grange Lane | 1 | Village shop Hitchin Rd Upper Caldecote | 1 |

**c) Capacity of existing venues (vacant slots shown in green)**

**Table 8: Methodist Church**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Time | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thur | Fri | Sat | Sun |
| AM | Yoga |  |  | Yoga | Pilates | Coffee morning | Church Service |
| PM |  |  |  | Friendship Club |  |  |  |
| Eve | Rainbow Guides Scouts | Cubs | Pilates | WIParish Council | Youth Club |  |  |

**Table 9: All Saints Church Hall**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Time | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thur | Fri | Sat | Sun |
| AM | SmartiesTerm time | Booked |  | Elections all day at certain times |  |  |  |
| PM |  |  | M Union |  |  | Parties as booked |  |
| Eve | Keep Fit | Slimming World | Yoga | Tai Chi |  |  |  |

**Table 10: Caldecote Playing Fields PFA**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Time | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thur | Fri | Sat | Sun |
| AM |  |  | Coffee & Cake x 1 monthly | Luncheon Club x 1 monthly |  | Booked | Booked |
| PM |  |  |  |  |  | Booked | Booked |
| Eve | Booked when Darts team at home | Booked |  | Booked | Booked | Booked | Booked |

**Table 11: Northill Village Hall**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Time | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thur | Fri | Sat | Sun |
| AM | Booked | Booked | Booked |  | Booked term time |  |  |
| PM | Booked |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Eve | Booked | Booked | Booked | Booked |  |  |  |

**Table 12: Sand Lane Church Hall**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Time | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thur | Fri | Sat | Sun |
| AM |  | Booked |  |  |  | Booked |  |
| PM |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Eve | Jan to May Dancing |  |  | Booked |  |  |  |

**Table 13. Ickwell Village Hall**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Time | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thur | Fri | Sat | Sun |
| AM | Booked | Booked | Booked | Booked | Booked |  |  |
| PM |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Eve |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

**Northill Lower School** No information was received

**5. Analysis of aspirations using SWOT analysis**

| **Table 14: Refreshment facilities - New Public House**  |
| --- |
| Strengths | Weakness | Opportunities | Threats |
| * Improved community spirit
* Taking over other community facilities which decline.
 | * A new pub would reduce the viability of the PFA club, Ickwell Cricket Club & The Crown at Northill, all of which locals can use.
* Idea goes against NP objective CF01.
 | Passing on information. | * 4 pubs closing every day in UK – (Thisismoney.co.uk – Nov. 2015).
* BBC reported that 29 pubs were closing each week (March 2015).
* Two pubs have already closed in Upper Caldecote and one in neighbouring Broom.
 |

| **Table 15: Refreshment Facilities - Additional catering outlet (café)** |
| --- |
| Strengths | Weakness | Opportunities | Threats |
| Something the parish does not have.Could be administered by the community or local businessCould use existing venues for hire. (Methodist Church, Village Halls, Peter Maudlin Pavilion) | Likely to attract locals only.Scope of interest not established beyond a few comments from NP workshops.May conflict with existing business provision and CF01.One place would not necessarily meet the requirements of residents in other villages/hamlets (transport) | For undertaking further evidence gathering from parish.Somewhere for mothers to meet with children.Somewhere for business people to meet (parish has many businesses registered here.Could be a development opportunity for existing business. | Use may be sporadic rather than regular. Financial aspects require further objective consideration. |

**Refreshment Facilities Additional information**

1. Policy Development Management 4 CBC Local Development Framework 2009. Within Settlement Envelopes in Large Villages, small-scale housing and employment uses, together with new retail and service facilities to serve the village and its catchment will be permitted
2. Idea discussed in principle with two local businesses who were not averse to considering a catering facility subject to a comprehensive feasibility study,
3. Playing Fields Association are happy to consider the possibility of accommodating a café on a self run or service provision basis for mums and business workers. They do have free wi-fi which could be of use. However further investigation would be required before a commitment could be made.
4. Methodist Hall - Homeworker / Mums coffee sessions would cost £5/hour hall hire and there are plans for refurbishing existing toilets but this is all at an early stage. The group would have to be self run and funded.
5. As an example of what might be possible - Enterprising Mums is a networking support group for mums in business or those thinking about setting up a business meeting in Sandy. There is the opportunity to network, 1 minute presentations and Business Spotlight, as well as a guest speaker. There is also an "as and when" option for people who have used their initial trial sessions, but don't want to commit to becoming a member.

| **Table 16: Additional Community Centre Upper Caldecote** |
| --- |
| Stengths | Weakness | Opportunities | Threats |
| Clean slate, built for present day purpose and could include hub for business people plus mothers meeting place. | Take business away from other venues.Who would be found to manage it?Already have venues x2 in Northill, x1 in Ickwell and x 3 in Upper Caldecote.Realistically cost would be for one so where will it be?Transport from rest of Parish problematic. | To evidence how much existing facilities are used and when. | Capital cost and maintenance/insuranceDifficulty in finding adults to manage and run existing buildings.Existing venues already struggle to find sufficient maintenance and running costs. Adding a new facility might result in closure of existing venues which contradicts Np objective CF01. |

**Table 17. New play facilities to serve Northill and Ickwell**

| Strengths | Weakness | Opportunities | Threats |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Would meet stated need in consultation and questionnaire for NP for such facility in Northill/Ickwell.Could be well used by Ickwell playschool (43 children on five day week attendance term time with 10 staff to supervise).  | Concentrating on children’s play only could be counterproductive as numbers relatively low.Who will be responsible for managing it?Who will pay to insure it?Who will pay ongoing maintenance /inspection costs.Who will oversee construction to correct standard | Including adult games equipment such as found in Langford/Potton could meet the needs of all age groups and be better used. | Cost of new facility is equalled in yearly running costs (PFA source).Capital money can be found through grants. Maintenance and insurance is for the providers to find on an annual basis.Equipment that is not maintained would have to be closed. |

| **Table 18: Improved play facilities**  |
| --- |
| Strengths | Weakness | Opportunities | Threats |
| Existing play area on PFA managed land (Upper Caldecote) could be used again. | Continuing cost born by Management Committee at playing fields. | For multi age equipment to enable families to play together.Would need cost benefit analysis | Ongoing and capital cost that could drain money away from necessary funds |

**Play Facilities Additional information**

1. Playing Fields Association – Would like their facilities to be used more – so there is vacant capacity. See annex 2 for details of costs
2. Legal status of open green spaces:

[http://www.ourgreenspace.org.uk/download-document/73-an introduction-to-their-legal-statusand-protection](http://www.ourgreenspace.org.uk/download-document/73-an%20introduction-to-their-legal-statusand-protection) states that legally play equipment is allowed on village greens as it is ‘ to enhance the enjoyment of the green’ whereas a bus shelter is not allowed as it does not.

1. Safety advice for play areas
* <http://www.rospa.com/play-safety/advice/> for play safety & advice.
* <http://www.api-play.org/api-welcome> for suppliers of play equipment.
* It could be requested of developers of larger developments that they consider providing play areas.
1. Gym equipment multi age use (photos available)From Parish Clerk Langford.
	1. Cost approximately £1095 per item (exc VAT)
	2. These can be supplied from many companies
	3. Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents(ROSPA) carry out regular checks <http://www.rospa.com>, which is arranged via the Village Hall Committee and which they pay for.
	4. The Village Hall Committee also undertake a monthly check of everything which may be ROSPA advised. Further details and pictures of Gym equipment at Annex 2
2. Children’s Playing Space (CBC local development framework)
* The quantity standard for youth provision is that there should be specific teen provision in each parish of population of over 3,000, linked clearly to consultation with local young people about their specific needs and the best way of meeting these. This provision is not relevant given the current size of the Parish
* The quantity standard for children’s play space is 0.4 ha of designated equipped play space per 1000 population.
* The quantity standard for outdoor playing pitches is 1.8 Hectares per 1000 population.

**6. Conclusion**

* **A new community centre would contravene Objective CF01 and the Parish has spare capacity within existing venues to accommodate the facilities parishioners require. A new public house would contravene the same objective and evidence in the SWOT analysis points to the likely demise of such a venture.**
* **An additional catering outlet could be viable and there is cautious interest in this idea displayed by three Parish businesses. A feasibility study would be required before any decision was taken. As a business proposition this will fall to the businesses themselves to conduct.**
* **Community assets as identified should be listed as such with CBC (what do we need to do to do this) thus affording them a degree of opportunity for community purchase if threatened by redevelopment.**
* **New play facilities could be viable in Northill / Ickwell either on Ickwell Green, at The Crown (land owned by Greene King) or as part of any proposed housing development in the area. However, limiting equipment to children only could miss an opportunity for a mixed age facility (similar to Langford) which could be made available to many more parishioners subject to planning, finance, insurance management and safety considerations. ROSPA can assist** **with all necessary action to set up a new play area.**

**Annex 1**

**Services which can be provided and maintained by a Parish Council**

* allotments
* bridleways
* burial grounds
* bus shelters
* car parks
* commons and open spaces
* community transport schemes
* community safety and crime reduction measures
* events and festivals
* footpaths
* leisure and sports facilities
* litter bins
* public toilets
* planning
* street cleaning and lighting
* tourism activities
* traffic calming measures
* village greens
* youth projects Source ([www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk](http://www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk)) .

Annex 2

**The Methodist Church and Church Hall exist to**

* **increase awareness of God's presence and to celebrate God's love**
* **help people to grow and learn as Christians, through mutual support and care**
* **be a good neighbour to people in need and to challenge injustice**
* **make more followers of Jesus Christ**

Facilities:

Modification or improvements to facilities/buildings are normally originated by the local church council on behalf of its members and must be approved by the North Bedfordshire Circuit (to which the church belongs). The building is managed locally by Trustees and all church property is owned by the Methodist Church Property Division who registers and oversees all improvements. Grants towards the cost of approved schemes can be made by the Circuit and Beds Herts & Essex District and nationally. Local churches can also seek grant aid from external bodies towards any costs. The local Methodist Church is part of the national and worldwide Methodist Church and is registered nationally as a Charity. Requests for regular/recurring bookings must be agreed by the Church Council (and via bookings clerk – J Payne).

* **All Saints Church and Church Hall**

This chapel opened in 1868 and was dedicated to All Saints. A school had already been built, in 1860 and a curate's house followed in 1873, alms houses in 1876 and a church room for social gatherings only in 1907.

<http://www.bedfordshire.gov.uk/CommunityAndLiving/ArchivesAndRecordOffice/CommunityArchives/UpperCaldecote/CaldecoteChurch.aspx>

Upper Caldecote became a separate ecclesiastical parish in 1928. Since 1981 Caldecote has been held in plurality with Old Warden and, more latterly, with Northill. The Church Hall was built in 1907 and is in need of some repair and modernisation.

* **Sand Lane Church Hall**

This was an old Victorian Chapel which was subsequently acquired by The Church of England. There was a move to close it in the 1990’s which was overruled. Subsequently it has been refurbished with new kitchen and toiltes and panelling.

Contact Jo Thrower. Tel:01767 627698. For Hire at £5/hour seats 50

* **Northill Village Hall**

The current village hall was built in the 1970's. Over the last few years it has been extended and had a new roof installed as well as a modern new ceiling. The hall is approximately 20 meters by 8 meters and has a full kitchen with 2 cookers. Recently refurbished toilet facilities with separate disabled facility and nappy changing area are just off the entrance hall. The hall has seating for 100 with tables and is licensed for up to 140 persons at any one time. It is run by a management committee. Contact Sue Tyler (chairperson) Tel: 01767 627642. Bookings: Cherre Stevens 07561 110393. There is also a paid caretaker.

* **Caldecote Playing Fields Association (PFA)**

This is a voluntary organisation run by a committee of people whose main aim is to promote sporting and social activities in the village. It was formed in 1955 to encourage sporting activities of all kinds and provide a pleasant social environment where people of all ages can enjoy a fully licensed pavilion’s facilities for events, get-togethers or just meeting for a chat and a drink. There are two TV sets, with SKY and BT Sports and free WiFi.. The club buys most supplies from Greene King, but is also a "free house" which enables them to be very competitive on drinks prices. Anyone is welcome to come to the club and enjoy a drink. Regular visitors are required to become members. Members can hire the club for birthdays, anniversaries and special events. There is a modest charge for the facilities and catering advice can be provided. The club holds events for all interests throughout the year. They have quiz nights, bingo, race nights, seasonal theme events, luncheon parties and the re-introduced Village Show. There are two playing fields and sporting facilities include netball basketball, tennis, football, cricket, boules, skittles and darts.

* *Multi Use Games Area HIRE PRICES*
	+ Football: Seniors £18.00 per hour Juniors £10.00 per hour (including the use of Floodlights)
	+ Netball: £15.00 per match or £20 party rate for MUGA
	+ Tennis: £5.00 per hour
	+ Block bookings - 20% discount for a season (Sept-April). To book please phone 01767 317481 or email mickswales@hotmail.com CFPA website <http://www.cpfa.co.uk/>
	+ Homeworker / Mums coffee sessions can be accommodated; £8/hour during day. Bring & make their own coffee
	+ Tennis courts/ netball etc – not used enough, there are 2 Netball teams
	+ Boules weekly in summer, Skittles – once a month all year round, Darts team
	+ Pavilion holds 110
* **The Crown at Northill**

The public house dates back to 1740**,** has a private dining area for 16 people, main seating area for 40 people and an upstairs room seating 20 people. There are children’s play facilities available for customers see pictures below). The Crown public house was listed by the former Department of Environment in October 1966 as Grade II, of special interest and has been owned by Greene King since 1961.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| http://crownnorthill.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2014/09/New-Garden-2-200x180.jpg | http://crownnorthill.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2014/09/new-garden-7-200x180.jpg |
| http://crownnorthill.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2014/09/new-garden-5-200x180.jpg | http://crownnorthill.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2014/09/new-garden-6-200x180.jpg |

* **G&M Growers** is a farm shop selling local fruit & vegetables, meat, frozen fish, biscuits, cakes, preserves, plants, pet food and pet medications, outdoor clothes and gardening equipment. The business also grows potatoes and offers a complete range of vegetables to local shops at wholesale prices. It also hosts a circus for short periods, dog shows and a weekly seasonal car boot sale. There is a hot dog/burger bar on site
* **Franklins of Thorncote** is an online butchers and farm shop, producing free range poultry, free range meat and dealing in game. Meat and poultry is produced on the farm and locally sourced vegetables, bread and cakes as well as pickles, honey, herbs & spices, apple juice, condiments and homemade jams are sold. There is a coffee machine and seating
* **Upper Caldecote Post Office Stores (Londis) in Hitchin Rd** has a wide range of everyday essentials including confectionery, beers, wine and spirits, top-up grocery items and fresh produce. It offers bill payment facilities, post office services, dry cleaning, food to go and the Lotto.
* **Caldecote Stores in Biggleswade Rd** is a retail general store.
* **Cattery at Hatch and Dog Kennels in Upper Caldecote**
* **Bed & Breakfast at Franklins and Thornecote Green**
* **Village groups**
* **The Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents**

This organisation does not reside in the parish but is a potential source of advice information, training and checklists to ensure safety and maintenance of equipment. RoSPA Playsafety Ltd TEL:01367 244600. E mail: info@rospaplaysafety.co.uk Address: The Old Barn, Wicklesham Lodge, Faringdon, Oxfordshire, SN7 7PN

* **Enterprising Mums** is an example of a networking support group for mums in business or those thinking about setting up a business. They meet in Sandy at 10am on the first Wednesday of each month during term time at Sandy Council Offices, 10 Cambridge Rd, Sandy, Beds, SG19 1JE. There is the opportunity to network, 1 minute presentations and Business Spotlight, as well as a guest speaker. Cost is £8 for non-members (in their 3 month trial) and £5 for members – there is also an "as and when" option for people who have used their initial trial sessions, but don't want to commit to becoming a member. This is priced at £10 per session.

Contact information for Upper Caldecote village groups

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| School PTA | Mrs R Berridge | 01767 316206 | Caldecote VC Lower School |
| Smarties | Mrs V Hawkins | 01767 314824 | All Saints Church Hall |
| Ickwell Pre-School | Mrs E Yates | 01767 627742 | Ickwell Village Hall |
| Caldecote Playing Fields Association | Mrs A Swales | 01767 317481 | Peter Maudlin Pavilion |
| Cricket Club | Mrs C Sizer | 01767 220426 | Peter Maudlin Pavilion |
| Football Club | Mr M Swales | 01767 317481 | Peter Maudlin Pavilion |
| Netball | Mrs V Buckland | 01767 | Peter Maudlin Pavilion |
| Scouts | Mr K Bennett | 01767 223398 | Methodist Church Hall |
| Rainbow Guides | Mrs S Parrish | 01767 315537 | Methodist Church Hall |
| Youth Club | Mrs S Payne | 01767 318993 | Methodist Church Hall |
| Flower Guild | Mrs N Best | 01767 312069 | All Saints Church Hall |
| Mothers Union | Mrs A Pressland | 01767 313874 | All Saints Church |
| Womens Institute | Mrs M Cross | 01767 221754 | Methodist Church Hall |
| Northill Parish Allotment Association | Mr Roshier | 01767 225194 |  |
| Friendship Club | Mrs G Mansfield | 01767 315882 | Methodist Church Hall |
| Coffee & Cake Group | Mrs N Best | 01767 312069 | Peter Maudlin Pavilion |
| Give & Take Time | Mrs S Bennett | 01767 223398 | Any Venue |
| Northill Community Singers | Mr S Berridge | 01767 220648 | Northill Village Hall |

**Langford Multi Age Play Facilities**

The following are examples of multi purpose exercise equipment available for all ages and run by a neighbouring parish.

* Air-walker
* Skier
* Rower
* Tai chi wheel
* Chest press
* Leg press
* Cross rider
* Combi bench



