

MIDDLETON - CUM - FORDLEY



NEWSLETTER

November 2025

Editorial

The front cover this month shows some of the winners at our recent Autumn Fayre. Congratulations to all.

Christmas is still almost 2 months away but I suspect it will be here before we know it! Tickets for the MCC party go on sale on Monday Nov. 3rd - first come-first served so best not dally if you'd like to come. The entertainment will be "a blast from the past" shall we say – without giving too much away!!!

As always I will be publishing your Christmas greetings in the December issue for those of you who like to – I have been given one already along with a donation! You can send me your wording with clip art or just the words and allow me to decorate for you. Just a polite word of warning though – the newsletter finances are not a bottomless pit so I would expect a donation of some kind in return for saving paper! (Thank you in anticipation.)

Contributions for the November issue can be emailed to barbara.barker.t21@btinternet.com or dropped in to 6 Meadowview, Rectory Rd by **Tuesday 25th November please.**

Spare paper copies will be in the church porch as usual.

Also to be found on the Parish website: www.middletoncumfordley.org.uk

Please email me if you currently receive a paper copy and would be happy to receive the emailed version.

Donations may be made to:
HSBC Middleton Newsletter
sort code 40-28-33
account number 61054236



ANNUAL VILLAGE HALL QUIZ

Friday 14th November

Doors open 6.30 for 7pm start



Teams of up to 6 £5 pp (includes light supper) Raffle BAR

To book a table:

Barbara.barker.t21@btinternet.com

or text to 07968723861

This is the main annual fundraiser for the hall so please try and support us.

Another Successful MacMillan Coffee Morning

We were delighted to see so many villagers both old and new come along on the 26th September to support the Big MacMillan Coffee morning at The Bell. It was a great morning successfully raising £757.30 for this worthwhile charity.

Cake, conversation, fun and games were enjoyed all washed down with a never ending supply of hot drinks donated by the pub and served by Leroy. Cakes sales were brisk this year and thank you to all who donated them. The standard gets higher each year.

So a pat on the back to the residents of Middleton for raising such a wonderful sum, not forgetting those who were unable to come but who so kindly made donations, special thanks to Leroy and The Bell and the wonderful team of people who help me host this event each year.

Fiona Cusack



Thursday Morning VH Group

As from November 6th the Thursday morning group will be offering soup and a roll, along with a hot drink from 11.00 am at the cosy, welcoming Village Hall every week.

Thanks to all the volunteers supporting this project throughout the years we have been going.

Come along and join us.

Contact Lynda if a lift is required on 07890 067054

CHURCH TOWER FLOOD LIGHTING

Now the light evenings are going and work is completed on interior and exterior church lighting the tower flood light is on again.

Sometime ago the tower was illuminated, by request, for special occasions for a small fee, but since Covid it has been on every evening in winter months. Logistically it isn't easy to have it come on, say an hour earlier by request, but not impossible.

In order to consider this idea further, and it is a nice idea, we need to gauge what interest there might be, so if you feel it is something you would request please just write 'yes interested' on a piece of paper(no need to sign it) and leave it in the Vestry. We will then see what is possible.

Thank you.

Rita

Church Warden





The Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal 2025.

Wearing a poppy is a personal choice, and there's no 'right' way to wear a poppy - we just ask that you wear it with pride.

From risking their lives in war zones to supporting during humanitarian disasters, we owe those who serve in the Armed Forces our gratitude.

The Royal British Legion believes that the poppy and Remembrance are, and always have been, unifiers of all people and communities across Britain and the Commonwealth since the First World War, supporting and recognising the contributions of the Armed Forces from these nations in times of conflict and rebuilding society.

We are a non-partisan and non-sectarian organisation focused on the experiences of those who serve or have served in the military, and those affected by their service, without considering the politics of conflict.

The poppy is a universally recognised symbol of Remembrance and hope: it unites us in remembering.

The poppy also acknowledges the wider impact of conflict. It represents the contribution of civilian services and uniformed emergency services that contribute to national security in times of war, conflict or terrorism and acknowledges innocent civilians who have lost their lives at such times.

The red poppy has no political or religious meaning and the decision to wear it is a matter of personal choice, being inclusive of all people from all backgrounds.

From The RBL website.



Poppies and other items are available at:

The Church: Please place any donations in the wall safe inside the Church by the font.

The Bell

The Village Hall

The School

If anybody cannot visit one of these places, we would be happy to deliver your request.

Wearing our poppies with pride – Jackie 648621, Rebecca and Chris



For those who wish to donate cashless

These can also be found with the display boxes



LITERARY EVENING AT THE BELL

Come along and read or recite a piece of **poetry** or **prose**.

Anything goes (within reason).

It may be **serious** or **humorous**, very short or not too long!

It may be ancient or modern.

It can be from anywhere, just recognisable English so that everyone can appreciate and enjoy.

If you enjoy a bit of local, self-entertainment come to

The Bell Inn, Middleton

on

Thursday 20th November (St. Edmund's Day)

7pm to 8pm.

AUTUMN FAYRE ROUND UP

Thank you to all who came and supported the Autumn Fayre, whether as stall holder, judge or punter, despite the forecast of high winds. Many things were moved indoors – thank you Leroy and staff for being so very accommodating, though we did still have some outdoor activities, including being entertained by the Random Blues Band. Congratulations to all winners, though sadly I don't have photos of all of you! Here are a few giving a *flavour* of the event!





MIDDLETON COMMUNITY COUNCIL CHRISTMAS PARTY



CHOICE OF MAIN MEAL, DESSERTS , CHEESE AND BISCUITS

FOLLOWED BY "YOUR OWN ..., YOUR VERY OWN,
LOCAL ENTERTAINMENT !! "

COFFEE/TEA AND MINCE PIE
CHARITY RAFFLE

Saturday 13th December – Village Hall
Welcome drinks – 6pm.

For those new to the village – this event started life many years ago as a senior citizens and members party. We ceased to have an MCC membership some time ago now and the current event is open to residents over 18, committee members and helpers on a first come first served basis as there is a limit on space. This year ticket price is held at **£12.50 pp** for residents which includes the meal and entertainment. **Tickets will be on sale from 3rd November** from Richard 648345 jenricht@btinternet.com and will require payment up front please. Cash (or cheque if anyone still has them) in an envelope with your contact details through the door at Threeways, The Street, or given in person. Alternatively scan the QR code below to pay online or contact Barbara for the BACS details.

(No block bookings, sorry.) Please let us know at the time of booking of any special dietary requirements such as vegetarian, vegan, gluten free etc.

There will be some complimentary wine on tables, but feel free to bring your own if you wish. Beer and soft drinks also available.



"Santa Boules"

SATURDAY 6TH DECEMBER - MIDDLETON RECREATION GROUND

Fun boules pairs competition for anyone to enter. 10.00 am start
Christmas jumpers/hats recommended (and thermals!)
Mulled wine & mince pies (and probably more!) £1 per person entry.



Register interest on Barbara.barker.t21@btinternet.com



MCC Children's Christmas vouchers

Are there any new children resident in the village ? Any age from 0 – 18 ?

The Community Council give each child a One4all voucher in lieu of the party we used to have (as there's not enough of you!) Please let Barbara know on barbara.barker.t21@btinternet.com by 1st December .

Continuing the Autumn live music events at The Bell -
SILMOR are back on Saturday 29th November from 8pm



Swiftly followed the week after by.....



Not live music - but definitely 'live DJ's !!!

Sure to have a Christmas feel to it!

MCC Young Persons Bursary

The Community Council awarded the young persons bursary for 2025 to Archie Reynolds to help purchase new football boots / equipment . Archie currently plays regularly with Leiston Town juniors.



At our October meeting we welcomed Barbara McElroy to give us her talk on "All Things Apple". Barbara was brought up on a fruit farm on the Essex/Suffolk border. She was not going to tell us about growing apples but about apples as symbols. A picture of the inside of an apple cut in half vertically depicts "female parts" of the body which may explain apple links to fertility. Looking at the picture of an apple cut in half horizontally one can see a 5 sided star, a pentagram shape. Examples of the pentagram have been found from 8,000 years ago along the Euphrates, in Israel 300-150 BC and the ancient Greek Pythagoras considered the pentagram a pure symbol with no beginning or end, a symbol of knowledge. The pentagram was also thought to represent the 5 points of the human body. Christians would later turn the pentagram into a cross, witches and satanists would turn it upside down- 2 points at the top. Apples have been associated with immortality, youth and knowledge as well as material desires, temptations (Adam and Eve) and conflict. Apples are in Greek myths. In the garden of the Hesperides grew golden apples tasting like honey with magical powers to heal the sick. These apples were guarded by a dragon. One of the tasks of Hercules was to obtain some of these apples, with the help of Atlas they slayed the dragon and stole the golden fruit. Another Greek myth is that one of these apples caused the Trojan War. In Norse Myths the eating of a golden apple a day gave the gods immortality. Celtic mythology mentions apples as fruit of the gods and eating gives the ability to live forever. Research has given us the origin of the apple. It developed from a rose growing in the Heavenly Forest of Tian Shan in China. Bears eating and leaving behind the pips helped spread this fruit across Europe, Asia and the Americas through the land bridge that once existed. Settlers and sailors to the New World also spread the seeds. Apples became commercial in England about 1900. By the 1950's there were 7,000 varieties of apples but the rise of supermarkets has reduced that number considerably. Barbara suggested that we buy our apples from local markets and farm shops to keep more varieties from disappearing. We learned so much about what we thought was just an apple!



In November on the 19th at 2:15pm we will hold our AGM.

LV

Co-incidentally

During the recent Harvest Festival interest was expressed in the late Michael Hamburger, poet and translator who (as some will know) lived in Middleton. The photo of him is in his beloved apple orchard and store along the Causeway. His Wikipedia entry specifically mentions his love of all things apple:



Hamburger lived in [Middleton, Suffolk](#), and appeared as a character in [W. G. Sebald's The Rings of Saturn](#). A few months before his death he was visited by the artist [Tacita Dean](#), whose poignant film [Michael Hamburger](#) focuses on the man and his home and the bonding of the man and his apple orchard. He died 7 July 2007.

"Weeding" by Michael Hamburger.

Here I am again with my sickle, spade, hoe
To decide over life or death, presume to call
This plant a 'weed' that one a "flower",
Adam's prerogative, hereditary power
I can't renounce. And yet, I know, I know,
It is a single generator drives them all,
And drives my murderous, my ordering hand.

These foxgloves, these red poppies, I let them stand,
Though I did not sow them. Slash the fruit-bearing bramble,
Dig out the ground elder, bindweed, stinging nettle,
Real rivals, invaders whose roots ramble,
Robbing or strangling those of more delicate plants.
Or perhaps it's their strength, putting me on my mettle
To fight them for space, resist their advance.

I shall go again to the overgrown plot
With my sickle, hoe, spade,
But use no weedkiller, however selective,
No chemicals, no machine.
Already the nettles, ground elder, bindweed
Spring up again.
It's a good fight, as long as neither wins,
There are fruit to pick, unpoisoned,
Weeds to look at. I call them 'wildflowers'.

HOLY TRINITY – MIDDLETON CUM FORDLEY

Church Services during November

Sunday 2 November 10 am Benefice Holy Communion

Sunday 9 November 10.50am Laying of Wreaths and Remembrance Service

Following this Service, please join us for coffee, croissants or a bacon butty at The Bell 11.15am-12 noon (our shout)*

**To help Leroy, please let him know if you are hoping to come and have any dietary requirements*

Sunday 30 November 5-6pm Waiting in the Dark 

A candle will be lit for an hour in church each Sunday during Advent between 5 and 6pm. Richly appreciated and enjoyed by those who attended last year, it is hoped that, once again, it may offer a space for quiet reflection, an unhurried pause in the short days and long lists that lead up to Christmas. Trusting once more that poetry can help us fathom the depths and inhabit the tensions of Advent's inherent paradox, this hour of silence will open and close with a poem from *Waiting on the Word* by Malcolm Guite. You may come and go as you please...
And, of course, people of any faith or none are warmly welcome.

Reiko Fujisawa Piano Concert

We look forward to welcoming everyone to Reiko's concert on 23rd November in Holy Trinity and we are delighted that there has been such a positive response. There are about 10 tickets left so do contact Paul Taylor on taylspaul@gmail.com if you would like to reserve a ticket.

Paul Taylor
07768 074107
taylspaul@gmail.com



Holy Dusters 

New dusters always welcome, of all faiths and none

5 November – Trish and Graham
10 December - Rob

19 November – Nicola and Margaret



Christmas Spruce! 

17 December 11-12pm

Everyone welcome, mince pies for all comers...



Thought for the Month...

**'Despite what they told you
God is not in control
But she is
Holding all things together
As mothers tend to do.'**

From *Rebellion of Care* by David Gate

Obituary

On 26th of September, Keith Allum passed away peacefully aged 97 years. He lived in Mill Street for nearly 70 years, firstly at no.4 Stone Cottages, then at no.1 Stone Cottages with his wife Maureen. At the end of June last year he was admitted to hospital with an infection, sadly he never returned home. He spent the last year of his life in Garrett House in Aldeburgh, mainly in bed, as he never regained his strength. Maureen continues to live there.

Some of you may remember seeing him on his daily journey to the church to get his newspapers, come rain or shine, driving his mobility scooter. He will be sadly missed by his family members.



The late Keith Allum

Holy Trinity PCC would like to extend their condolences to Angela and family at this sad time, our thoughts are with you.

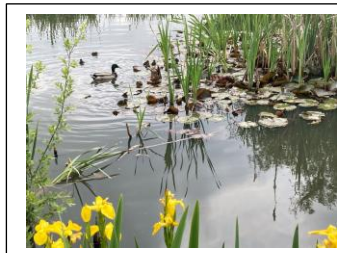
The late Susanna Bridge

On behalf of Holy Trinity PCC we would like to express condolences to Simon and family at this sad time, our thoughts are with you.

Rita
CW

On behalf of Holy Trinity PCC and no doubt many others in the village, thank you to the PC for work that has commenced on the village path to the church, it will make such a difference and be much safer especially in wet weather.

Rita CW



The church has commissioned a new set of notelets. Each pack of 10 comes complete with envelopes. The cost per pack is £5.

HELP WANTED WITH 2 HORSES AND STABLE MANAGEMENT.

For further information please call 01728 648377

Many thanks,
Rita

Sizewell C Road Closures – Rail and MDS Roads (Q4-)

	Date	Location	Daytime / Night time closure	Works
	Ongoing to January 2027	Abbey Lane, Leiston	Full closure	Green rail route and MDS Roads.
	6 Oct to 24 Oct	Church Road, Theberton	Full closure	Scottish Power (SZC)
	20 Oct to 20 Dec	Lover's Lane, Leiston	Nighttime	132 KV Cable
	3 Nov to 18 Nov	Buckleswood Road, Leiston	Full closure	Green Rail Route
*	3 Nov to 14 Nov	Fordley Road, Middleton	Full closure	Sizewell Link Road Openreach Diversion
*	From 17 Nov	Littlemoor Road, Middleton	Full closure	Sizewell Link Road
	1 Dec to 13 Dec (TBC)	Buckleswood Lane	Full closure	Green Rail Route ESW Diversion
	17 Dec to 13 Jan (TBC)	Saxmundham level crossing	Full closure	Green Rail Route

Diversion should be via Littlemoor Rd.

Reminder : SIZEWELL C are visiting MIDDLETON

Staff from SZC will be attending our Parish Council meeting on Wednesday 12 November 2025, 7pm, to answer YOUR questions.

We look forward to seeing you there.
Middleton-cum-Fordley Parish Council

Middleton Dark Skies

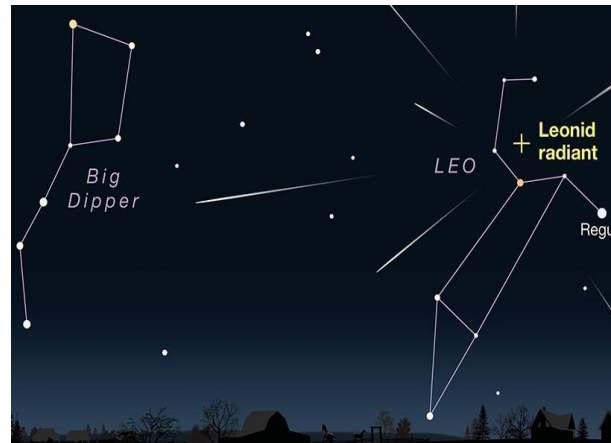
November Highlights

Planets on View. **Venus** is still shining brightly out towards the east in the dawn twilight, but it will be sinking down lower in the sky as the month progresses. **Mars** is still lost in the glare of the Sun this month. **Jupiter** rises at around 8.00 pm out towards the NE, shining brightly just below the two main stars of the constellation of Gemini. (Castor and Pollux). Look out for the Moon on the 9th, sitting to the right of Castor and Pollux and above Jupiter. **Saturn** sits in the south western sky, and should be fairly easy to spot as it outshines all of the stars around it. The planet will set at around 2.00 am.

Constellations. The winter constellations are beginning to make their presence felt from the east this month, with **Taurus** (the Bull) and **Orion** (the Hunter) being the first of these. At around 10.00 pm, both of these constellations will be out towards the SE. Taurus has figured in many cultures over the years, and nearly always as a bull. In Greek myth the god Zeus, transformed into a large white bull to abduct and carry the princess Europa out to sea. This is why only the front half of Taurus is visible in the sky as, in myth, the rear half of the bull was submerged in the water. The 'V' shape of stars that form the head of Taurus, are in fact the star cluster **Hyades**, which is the nearest cluster to the Earth, being some 153 light years away. Although the brightest stars in the cluster form the distinctive 'V' shape (15 of these are visible to the naked eye), binoculars or a small telescope will reveal dozens more. There is a second star cluster within the constellation of Taurus, the **Pleiades** (or the Seven Sisters) which is easily visible to the naked eye. As the name suggests, there are seven stars that are visible unaided, but binoculars will reveal most of the 1000 stars that form this cluster. Also, look out for both The Plough or Big Dipper within Ursa Major (the Great Bear), and Ursa Minor (the Little Bear), out towards the north as they are always easy to locate at this time of the year.



Taurus, Orion and Gemini



Leonid Meteor Shower Radiant

The Moon. This month's moon goes by the name of Beaver or Frost Moon, although the beaver reference (Beavers start building dams at this time of the year), is thought to be more likely based on North American lore, rather than UK beavers which were hunted to extinction some 400 years ago. Full Moon occurs on the 5th November, and will be the biggest and the brightest of the three supermoons this year. Difficult to visibly judge without any comparison, but this supermoon will be some 30% brighter and 14% larger than the faintest full moon. The following night, the Moon will be sitting just to the left of the Pleiades star cluster. On the 9th it will be located within the constellation of Gemini, and just above the planet Jupiter.

Meteors. There is one shower of note this month, the Leonid shower, which occurs on the night of 17/18 November. A moonless night means that, with hopefully clear skies, conditions should be ideal for viewing. These particular meteors are formed by dust particles and debris left over from the Comet Tempel-Tuttle. The radiant, or the point in the sky at which the meteors appear to come from, is in the constellation of Leo (the Lion), and rates of 10-15 per hour can be expected. These are generally very fast meteors and leave fine trails behind them. Best seen looking out after 10.00 pm towards the NE to the right of the Plough (or Big Dipper).

Brian Near

November Nature Notes

November is the month when the numbers of winter visitor birds in the countryside begin to build up. Millions of birds will stream into Britain; leaving their frozen breeding areas of northern Scandinavia to spend the winter in the relative warmth of the Suffolk countryside. The miracle of bird migration can be experienced firsthand each autumn on the North Norfolk coast. Standing on the shingle bank at Cley, I have watched thousands of birds moving south over the coast. If the going is tough with a headwind, they fly low just above the waves rising to crest the bank before diving into the nearest cover; here they are able to shelter from predators and to feed before continuing their journey. Migration continues throughout the autumn and just by standing outside on a clear evening, it is possible to hear the long drawn out 'zeeep' call, given in flight as hundreds of redwings make their way south. Apart from the expected species such as redwings and fieldfares, thousands of familiar garden birds such as robins, blackbirds and song thrushes journey here for the winter. Other migrants I have seen crossing the north Norfolk coast include skylarks, meadow pipits, grey wagtails and goldcrests. The smallest British bird weighing less than five grams goldcrests are common autumn migrants, although they often arrive in an exhausted state and have a low survival rate.



Short-eared and long-eared owls are also regular autumnal immigrants, their arrival is often quite visible, as they can be seen offshore before struggling to make landfall. I have also had an exhausted woodcock drop at my feet; traditionally the first 'falls' of woodcock are said to coincide with the new moon in November. Moorhens and coots also migrate here in some numbers, although it is difficult to imagine these birds that are usually so reluctant to take off and looking so ungainly in flight being able to cross the open sea. Occasionally, weather conditions over Scandinavia encourage mass southward migration and if this is then followed by rain, fog or high winds over Britain then a 'fall' may occur. Hundreds if not thousands of birds are then grounded. I have witnessed falls of thousands of robins and also of song thrushes and redwings and once of goldcrests on the Norfolk coast. However, these do not compare with the numbers involved in the 'great fall' of 1965, when an early morning thunderstorm brought an avalanche of avian migrants onto the Suffolk coast. An estimated half a million birds descended along the coastline between Sizewell and Hopton, involving no fewer than 78 species - not only passerines but also waders, raptors and waterfowl.

Peter Vincent

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TOAD WAITING FOR ITS PARTNER, MIDDLETON MOOR



Taken at Moor Farm by Tom Brown recently.



The Middleton of 2025-2045

Ashley Brown



The villagers are calling on Sizewell C to consult with parish councils on the plans

Image: NEWSQUEST

Mighty oaks given 'stay of execution' as relief road paused

Campaigners are celebrating a last minute climbdown to cut down two oak trees to make way for a new relief road.

A 45-strong crowd turned out near the B1125 Leiston Road in Middleton to call for the oaks to be saved.

The trees were to be cut as part of Sizewell C's work to create a new link road to the B1122.

The end of the B1125 was due to close between October 6 and 10 to enable the work to take place, but Sizewell C has announced the work has been paused.

Demonstration organiser Mandy Beaumont, said: "It is great, it is a good step in the right direction, but clearly a lot more needs to be done."

She called on Sizewell C to consult with villagers and parish councils on a road layout

DOMINIC BAREHAM
dominic.bareham@newsquest.co.uk

that was not detrimental to the community, amid fears the link road would create a "rat run" through the village for construction vehicles.

The relief road would connect to the 6.5km Sizewell Link Road (SLR) from the A12 to the B1122 to take lorries away from the busy A12.

Addressing the demonstrators, Mandy said the Sizewell C climbdown was only a "stay of execution" and said the oaks had been "sentinels" of the roadside for at least 150 years and had watched village life pass through them during that time.

She added: "This road is a notorious rat-run to and from the north to avoid using the A12 and we need to remove all enticements to make that worse."

"The proposed link to the SLR from here is an obvious encouragement which will increase both the volume and speed of traffic on this rural road and will make it much more dangerous."

"Please pick up an acorn and remember that from any small acorn, a mighty campaign can grow. So now, for a moment let's just celebrate these magnificent oaks."

She believed media interest and pressure from Suffolk Coastal MP Jenny Riddell-Carpenter had led to Sizewell C pausing the plans.

Catherine Richardson, from Middleton, said it was "fantastic" news, while Westleton Parish Council chair Andrew Turner called for a meeting with the developer.

A Sizewell C spokesperson said: "Given the concerns that have been raised by local communities, we have instructed our contractors to reassess the plans, and we will pause the work as we reconsider all safety requirements of the B1125, in partnership with SCC Highways."

Suffolk and North East Essex
Vaccination Service

Covid-19, RSV vaccines are now available

Visit the dedicated vaccination website for Suffolk and north east Essex to check whether you are eligible and to find out how to receive your vaccinations. Alternatively, you can call

www.sneevaccine.com

Might seem like 'OLD NEWS' but...

... that's still the situation as reported then although SZC have now had the first meeting with local Councillors and are apparently collating traffic figures before getting together again with Councillors to review the requirement for the extension/road layout/oaks removal.

Anyone wanting regular updates on the oaks/road layout situation to send me a message on mobilemandy@me.com so I can add you to my m/list (I'm only sending updates to people who have specifically requested it, unless I think the whole village needs to know regardless).

Mandy

MIDDLETON CUM FORDLEY PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 8 OCTOBER 2025 AT 7pm AT THE VILLAGE HALL

"Please note that the Parish Council will be pleased to consider adding additional items suggested by residents please do so via the Parish Clerk on parishclerkmiddleton@gmail.com".

1 Attendance and Apologies

Attendees:

Cllr Julian Cusack
Cllr Steve Thorpe
Cllr Chris Reynolds
Cllr Giles Piercy
Cllr Kathryn Rowe

Apologies accepted for absence:

Cllr Charles Macdowell
Cllr Michele Kendall
County Cllr Richard Smith

In attendance:

Rachael Salcombe – Parish Clerk
Dist Cllr Katie Graham Members of the public x 3

2 Councillors' Declarations of Interest. None

3 Public Forum. Dist. Cllr Graham reported the following:

Parking charges will again be lifted for Remembrance Sunday events in communities across East Suffolk.

From 2026, East Suffolk Council will supply all households with an additional wheelie bin or other container to separate paper and card from plastics, metal, cartons (including Tetra Pak) and glass bottles or jars. This will be in addition to a brand-new weekly food waste collection service.

With this in mind, changes are required to colours in East Suffolk, which are currently out of step with the rest of the county. Additionally, a colour clash will be resolved, helping to avoid confusion for residents.

Rather than purchasing new bins, East Suffolk Council's Cabinet has instead opted to introduce new bin lids, in the appropriate colour, at a fraction of the cost. To replace bins in their entirety would cost £875,000 plus distribution which would take the overall cost to over £1 Million. However, replacement lids, will cost around £350,000 to purchase and install, providing a far cheaper and more environmentally friendly option.

Small electrical items may be left for collection on top of the rubbish wheelie bin. Further information is available online. Search [Regulations: Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment \(WEEE\) - GOV.UK](#).

The Art Station based in Saxmundham will be delivering a local exhibition as part of the Creative Environment series, in Aldeburgh this weekend.

Yoxford village hall will be hosting the first series of lectures by photographer Richard Allenby-Pratt tomorrow evening. The lecture will focus on the impacts of the energy projects for people living in the area. The following lecture will be in November at The Long Shop Museum, Leiston.

4 Minutes

a) The Council approved the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 10 September 2025.

b) Matters Arising and Action Points

- * Cllr Thorpe has written to SZC confirming MPC's support for the speed reduction on the B1125.
- * SZC have been invited and have accepted the invitation to attend November's parish meeting. An advertisement has been placed in the village newsletter encouraging residents to submit questions.
- * It was confirmed that the defibrillator has been placed inside the village hall for people using the hall, also, the defibrillator has no outer casing so it cannot be locked and placed outside. **Action: Cllr Thorpe to advise the village hall committee that a locked case may be an option, like that at The Bell Inn, whereby a code is accessed by calling the number provided on the cabinet.**
- * Cllr Thorpe has supplied the Village Hall Committee with information regarding a grant for solar panels.
- * The clerk sought further clarification regarding the Discharge of Requirement 35 and 10. The further information provided did not aid the PC, but it was agreed that the documentation was essentially only a formality, as the Discharge has already been carried out.

- * The Asset Register has been updated and uploaded onto the village website.
 - * Another advertisement for councillor vacancies has been placed in the village newsletter.
 - * No objection to Planning Application DC/25/2616/FUL has been submitted to ESC.
 - * Complaints Procedure, Equality & Diversity Procedure and Safeguarding Policy have been updated and uploaded onto the village website.
 - * The grit bins have been checked and are now full ready for the winter months.
 - * The noticeboard at The Bell Inn needs refurbishing. Cllr Thorpe has planned for this to be done.
 - * The village hall noticeboard has been replaced.
- 5 Causeway Farm.** SZC's Environmental Improvement Fund is now open for organisations to 'express an interest'. It was agreed that MPC should submit an expression of interest, based replacing loss of landscape, increasing biodiversity, a place for residents to exercise and relax. **Action: Cllr Cusack to submit .**
- 6 Sizewell C and other Energy Projects.** Cllr Macdowell and village residents are, this evening, attending the SZC Forum, in Leiston, where questions will be raised regarding the oak trees and the road layout of the SLR. A meeting has been arranged for 16 October for all interested parties. Dist. Cllr Graham was thanked for her letter of support regarding the oak trees.
A vote was requested and passed demonstrating opposition regarding the B1125/SLR extension and resulting repositioning of the B1122 at Yew Tree Corner.
Sizewell C have accepted our invitation to attend November's PC meeting. An advertisement in the village newsletter invites residents to submit questions to the clerk (parishclerkmiddleton@gmail.com), which will be shared with SZC with answers provided at the meeting in November. The cut-off date for questions is Friday 24 October.
- 7 Emergency Planning Group.** Cllr Piercy to attend a webinar session.
- 8 Councillors Reports**
- a) Village Hall. The village hall committee have requested that all three councillors who represent the PC attend their meetings. The Cllrs agreed that they will do their best to all attend the meetings.
 - b) Middleton Primary School. Nothing to report.
 - c) Highways, footpaths and trees. A meeting with SZC is to take place regarding extra footpaths around the village.
 - d) Middleton Moor. No report.
- 9 Finance**
- a) The latest financial position was received and accepted by all.
 - b) The following payments were authorised.
- | Details | Payee | Amount | Power |
|--------------------------------------|------------------|---------|-----------------|
| NI Contributions P30 Q2 | HMRC | £61.62 | LGA 1972 s. 112 |
| Clerk Expenses (April – October) | Rachael Salcombe | £221.82 | LGA 1972 s. 111 |
| 6 months payroll services to 30.9.25 | SALC | £82.80 | LGA 1972 s. 112 |
- c) Confirmation regarding the need for a standard or an enhanced DBS check is still awaited. It was agreed for the clerk to attend two online sessions: Introduction to Safeguarding £35 and Designated Safeguarding lead training £40. **Action: Clerk to book both courses.**
- 11 New Councillor(s).** Interest has been shown by a village resident. **Action: Clerk to provide a co-option application form.**
- 12 Village Path approach to Church.** Works are to commence on Wednesday 15 October. **Action: Cllr Cusack to advise residents living by the church. Action: Clerk to request an electronic message to be sent out to village residents.**
- 13 Document Updates.** Grievance Procedure, Subject Access Request Policy and Document Retention Policy were re-adopted. **Action: Clerk to upload onto village website (replacing existing).**
- 14 Correspondence.** Neighbourhood Plan Guidance Documents. It was agreed that a Neighbourhood Plan is not on the list of the PC's priorities at the moment. It is envisaged that any plan that we may undertake in the future would include parishes local to us. **Action: Clerk to advise ESC accordingly.**

Nine cuts have been made to the village green this year. Upon enquiry, it was agreed that further cuts can be made if deemed necessary. **Action: Clerk to advise accordingly.**

16 Consider Items for Next Agenda.

17 Next Meeting. Agreed for Wednesday 12 November 2025 at 7pm, at the Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 7.55pm.

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**MIDDLETON CUM FORDLEY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING AS SOLE TRUSTEE OF  
THE MIDDLETON RECREATION GROUND TRUST  
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 10 OCTOBER 2025  
AT 7.55pm AT THE VILLAGE HALL**

**1 Attendance and Apologies**

**Attendees:**

Cllr Julian Cusack  
Cllr Steve Thorpe  
Cllr Chris Reynolds  
Cllr Kathryn Rowe  
Cllr Giles Piercy

**Apologies accepted for absence:**

Cllr Charles Macdowell  
Cllr Michele Kendall

**In attendance:**

Rachael Salcombe – Parish Clerk  
Members of the public x 1

**2 To receive declarations of interest and to consider requests for dispensations.** None.

**3 Minutes**

Minutes approved of Trustee Meeting held on 10 September 2025.

Matters arising

- A response has been received regarding playground inspection fees following the anticipated increase in play equipment/items.
- It was confirmed that the cost to run the dehumidifiers in the pavilion may be submitted as part of the insurance claim.
- It was confirmed that the Recreation Ground Trust do not claim VAT.
- A ballpark insurance figure has been supplied to include £120,000 of new play equipment.
- The Recreation Ground Working Group Terms of Reference has been updated, readopted and uploaded to the village website.

**4 To review Safety Inspection Report.** October's report was received after this meeting and has subsequently been issued to the parish councillors.

**5 Finance**

a) To approve the following payment.

| Details                              | Payee | Amount  | Power         |
|--------------------------------------|-------|---------|---------------|
| P30 Q2 Income Tax – Pavilion Manager | HMRC  | £117.00 | LGA1972 s.112 |

b) The new British Gas rates, effective from January 2026 were noted.

**6 Correspondence.** None.

**7 Matters for discussion.** A representative from SZC Community Fund will be visiting the recreation ground on 14 October 2025.

The Recreation Ground Working Group plan to meet to discuss budgeting for the pavilion and the future, following which, representation will be made to the PC.  
The Recreation Ground is being used for DofE this weekend and next. Upon advice, it was agreed to charge £70 for each use.

Completion of the pavilion floor repairs will take place on 30 October. **Action: Cllr Reynolds to supply the clerk with quote/invoice for replacement kitchen units. Action: Clerk to furnish the insurers with the most recent British Gas invoice and kitchen units' invoice.**

Thanks were given to Cllr Reynolds for organising the insurance claim following the flooding of the pavilion.

The automatic flush in the gent's toilet needs replacing, along with two stopcocks. The total cost of £275 + VAT was agreed. **Action: Cllr Reynolds to instruct contractor.**

**8 Consider Items for the next Agenda.**

**9 Next Meeting.** Agreed for Wednesday 12 November 2025 to follow on after the Parish Council Meeting.

Meeting closed at 8.30pm.

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Letter to the Clerk

Good Afternoon,

I am emailing from Feel Good Suffolk, we are the healthy lifestyle service for Suffolk and can help residents with free support to stop smoking, weight management and being more physically active. We are funded by Public Health within Suffolk County Council and Feel Good Suffolk is a partnership across all District and Borough Councils in Suffolk.

I am primarily emailing with information about our stop smoking service and would appreciate your support in sharing this information with your local community.

Feel Good Suffolk can offer support to stop smoking through a variety of options, such as group support sessions, and 1:1 support alongside nicotine replacement therapies. Feel Good Suffolk is committed to helping everyone find a method that works for them, ensuring that quitting smoking is a positive and successful experience.

So, our ask of you, would any of the following please be possible within your communities?

- We would love to promote Feel Good Suffolk on any community notice boards you may operate? I have attached a pdf poster to this email.
- Do you have any Town or Parish magazines/newsletters which we could include a promotional piece in?
- If you run or have any regular community events/meetings/groups which you think it would be worthwhile us attending to share more information about our service, please do let me know.

If you have any other suggestions, ideas or questions for me, please do feel free to reach out!

I look forward to hearing back from you soon.

Best Wishes

Jessie

Jessie Backhouse | Feel Good Suffolk Development Officer

East Suffolk Council

07917 403227

01394 444660



Coffee table Sudoku

		9		6	7	5		8
6	4		8			1		
	8				5			2
	2			7		3		
7		6		4		8		1
		1	3		2		5	
8			6				1	
		4			1		8	7
1		3	7	9		2		

Easy

3					9		7	
	8		4					1
		6	7			9	5	
	9		3		6			2
	4		8				9	
7					5		8	
	1	4			7	6		
6					1		4	
	3		5					7

Medium

		7	9			2		
5		9		1				4
		4			3			1
		1	8			3	5	
9					7			8
	7	8				6		
3			1			7		
1				3		5		9
		5			2	1		

Medium

9					6			
5	1						6	
						1		2
					4		5	3
	7		1		8		2	
8	5		3					
7		1						
	3						8	4
			6					9

Harder

7		1	2		4	6		5
				1				
3								7
		9		6		1		
		3	1		5	2		
		2		7		5		
6								2
				4				
4		5	7		9	8		3

Hard

DIARY DATES 2025

November

Sunday 2 nd	Benefice Communion, Holy Trinity 10am
Thursday 6 th	"Squit Night" – live music at The Bell – from 8pm
Sunday 9 th	10.50 am Laying of wreaths and Remembrance Service
Wednesday 12 th	Parish Council Meeting , Village Hall, 7pm SZC representatives attending
Friday 14 th	Annual Village Hall Quiz - doors open 6.30pm
Wednesday 19 th	WI – Village Hall, AGM tea & cakes 2.15pm
Thursday 20 th	Literary Evening at The Bell 7-8pm
Sunday 23 rd	Reiko Fujisawa Concert – Holy Trinity – 2pm
Saturday 29 th	Christmas Craft Fayre – Village Hall
Saturday 29 th	Silmor live at The Bell from 8pm
Sunday 30 th	5-6pm Waiting in the Dark and Sundays in Advent.

December

Thursday 4 th	"Squit Night" – live music at The Bell – from 8pm
Saturday 6 th	'Santa Boules' Festive fun at the playing field 10.00 am
Saturday 6 th	Vinyl Night at the Bell from 6pm
Wednesday 10 th	Parish Council Meeting , Village Hall, 7pm
Saturday 13 th	MCC Christmas Party 6pm
Wednesday 17 th	WI – Village Hall , end of year celebration. 7.15pm



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