

MIDDLETON - CUM - FORDLEY



NEWSLETTER

June 2024

Editorial

Firstly may I say a huge thank you to Mandy for doing a great job on editing the last newsletter, and to Renny for sorting out the distribution. I knew I'd left it all in safe hands. Thank you ladies.

Having only returned a few days ago I didn't have a cover photo so I thought I would share with you this wonderful tree from the Botanical Gardens near the Sydney Opera House. An amazing shape, and I wonder how many of you managed to get a sighting of the Northern Lights a couple of weeks ago?

We were hopeful that we might see the Southern Lights but sadly it was mostly cloudy on those evenings where we were.

We have several new people moved into residence I believe whilst I was away – welcome one and all. Open Gardens this weekend is a good starting point for you to find your way around and get to know a few people, or perhaps one of the other events will be more suitable. Vinyl night in the pub is always fun and full of nostalgia!

You can opt for a digital version of this newsletter if you prefer, by contacting me on the email just below.

Contributions for the next edition by email preferably as a WORD doc please, as usual to: barbara.barker.t21@btinternet.com or dropped in to 6 Meadowview, Rectory Road, by **Tuesday 25th June**.

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

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

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

Warning to be aware of "Clip for cash scams" locally

Please be aware of a new menace locally - so called "clip for cash" scams where someone brushes your car or throws an object and claims you broke their wing mirror or something similar. They then angrily demand cash.

This happened recently to one local resident, who understandably wishes to remain anonymous. Their car was clipped at high speed by a black BMW on Pretty Road towards Saxmundham. The male driver and his female accomplice then turned round and blocked her car and demanded money for an alleged broken wing mirror, forced her to drive to Sax and the female accomplice marched her to a cash machine. Police were informed but claimed there was nothing they could do despite significant CCTV availability.

If you have experienced anything similar please let others know - maybe the police might eventually be persuaded to do something. A story about these scams is in the link below.

[Drivers warned about new 'clip for cash' crash scam | UK News | Sky News](#)



East Suffolk Council

East Suffolk C... · Edited 2 days ago

From Monday 20 May, motorists parking in East Suffolk Council-owned car parks will be able to choose from a selection of cashless payment providers.

We have joined the pilot phase of the National Parking Platform, delivered by the Department for Transport.

This means that, in addition to RingGo, there will now be other parking providers to use when paying for parking cashlessly. You will be able to choose from RingGo, PayByPhone, JustPark, APCOA Connect and AppyParking+.

On arrival at a car park, you can choose to pay using any of the listed providers, through an app if you already have it or are able to download it at the time, or through the providers' website.

All East Suffolk car parks will still accept cash using the on-site payment machines.

FOUND

A ring has been found lying on the road at the top of the Causeway near the B1122 junction.

Please contact Lynda on 01728 668977 if you have lost one.

URGENTLY REQUIRED

Books, for the Give & Take phone box on the green. Also for the green itself, any unwanted flower pots and or plants to make it a pleasant place to sit for locals and visitors alike. Books can be left in the phone box and any plant pots etc can be left at Heather Cottage opposite the bus stop.

Thanking you in advance.

Sue Peel

Middleton Open Gardens

1st and 2nd June (last entry 4pm)

11am to 5pm

15 Gardens, several new gardens this year

Adults £5.00 - children free (pay at the Pavilion or Middleton Moor)

Refreshments at the pavilion available all day



Maps available from: Pavilion (post code IP17 3NZ) at the Recreation Ground & at Middleton Moor (B1122) (Post Code IP17 3LW)

**Major fundraiser for Holy Trinity Church, Middleton,
Also supporting Suffolk Mind, an independent charity whose aim is to make Suffolk the
best place to talk about and take care of mental health. Project40seven, (IP17) who
provide a space that offers positive ways to engage and help our local community**

Contact: Christine Burgess 01728 649020 or 07826 840478

christineburgess29@gmail.com

Middleton-cum-Fordley Community Council
invites you to have some fun with fellow
villagers to welcome in the Summer...



Lots of fun and head-scratching at the
Outdoor Midsummer Quiz
Saturday 22nd June
6:30 for 7pm start

Teams of up to 6, or we can put you with a team.
£2.50/person. Bring your own drinks and nibbles.

Held outside at the Recreation Ground

To book a place/table: tricia.cooke1@btopenworld.com

Join in the fun by coming along to
Village Summer Boules

Saturday 13th July

Start at 10:00am

Boules pitch at

The Recreation Ground



No experience necessary, make up a pair or
join one on the day. £1/player
jenricht@btinternet.com

*Both these events are open to all, always lots of fun
and a great way to participate in Village life.*

N.B. in the event of inclement weather the quiz will move to the Village Hall.



WI News

At our May meeting we welcomed Claire O'Sullivan from Contemporary Hempery in Fressingfield to give us a talk on industrial hemp. This plant, native to central Asia, was used 12,000 years ago in China from there it spread westward to be used by the Greeks and Romans. Here there is evidence that it was used by the Anglo-Saxons for a coarse clothing material. In England, from 1550-1820, there was a thriving hemp industry producing clothing, household linen and ropes and sails for ships. One-eighth of the UK hemp was produced here in the Waveney Valley where the spinning and weaving of hemp fibre was a cottage industry for rural families. Weaving was the most skilled job with the treasured looms being passed down to the next generation. It is believed that there were four weavers in Middleton at this time. The hemp production was never mechanised so with the coming of cheap imported cotton and the invention of the Spinning Jenny and the 1812 Power Loom, the hemp industry went into decline. The final local hemp company which was in N.Lopham closed in 1925.

At Contemporary Hempery they are trying to revive this local industry with traditional methods and skills. The hemp is planted in May and grows without the need for pesticides or herbicides and very little water is needed. In August, when it is 10 feet tall, it is harvested with a small, mechanised cutter and gathered by hand. The bunches go through "retting", soaking in water for 5 days to rot the bonds between fibre and stalk. The next is "scutching", bashing the straw with wood to get the fibres. Then, "heckling", pulling the fibres through horseshoe nail combs to



soften them. It is then ready to spin into yarn ready for weaving into fabric. Needless to say, it takes quite a while to go from plant to material. Contemporary Hempery started in 2021 with 3 aims. 1. to revive hemp for textiles 2. to create beautiful fabrics. 3. to work with the community. At the moment, growers of hemp must have a license from the government. Claire hopes in the near future it will loosen it's grip so that more can be grown because there are 25,000 uses for hemp: oil, food, cosmetics, textiles, hempcrete, hempwood, insulation, animal bedding and food to name a few! Claire's talk was most enthusiastic so that on the next Hempery open day for the community, some of us might be found wandering through the 10 ft tall hemp plants!

Our next meeting will be on the 19th of June at 7:15pm. Malcolm Knott will be the speaker "Laughter and Tears", a lifetime in law. All welcome.

LV

Thank you all so much for my 60th birthday present.

I'm putting the money towards a piece of jewellery that I will treasure always
and remember the special people behind it.

Thank you once again, I hope to catch up with you all soon.

Sue

A big thankyou to all my Middleton friends
for their kind birthday wishes on my 80th
birthday and the wonderful present of a set
of boules. I could not have had a better
present and now need to up my game to be
worthy of them!! Many thanks.
Renny xx

Concerts at Cratfield 2024

Chamber Music in East Suffolk



SUNDAY 30 JUNE 3PM

JENNIFER PIKE *violin*

JEREMY PIKE *piano*

Mozart, Ravel, Pike, Grieg

SUNDAY 14 JULY 3PM

JENEBA KANNEH-MASON *piano*

Scarlatti, Chopin, Still, Liszt, Prokofiev

SUNDAY 28 JULY 3PM

MELIORA COLLECTIVE *septet*

Sibelius, Coleman, Montgomery,

Koechlin, Mozart, Ligeti

SUNDAY 11 AUGUST 3PM

TIM POSNER *cello*

MISHKA RUSHDIE MOMEN *piano*

Beethoven, Fauré, Saint-Saëns

SUNDAY 25 AUGUST 3PM

FITZWILLIAM QUARTET

Shostakovich, Dilnot Johnson, Mozart

SUNDAY 8 SEPTEMBER 3PM

HEATH QUARTET

Haydn, Williamson, Bosmans, Korngold

St Mary's Church, Church Road,
Cratfield, East Suffolk, IP19 0BU
www.concertsatcratfield.org



FITZWILLIAM QUARTET



MISHKA RUSHDIE MOMEN & TIM POSNER



HEATH QUARTET

Please could I request that a request be placed in the newsletter to the effect that could people please put a collar and a bell on their cat to give the small things a chance.

I know that lots of people will consider this to be a gross imposition but life is getting harder and harder for our small fellow earthlings.

As a for instance, the more second and third etc. homes we have in the village, the fewer bird feeders are regularly replenished and maintained; the more people do up their dilapidated buildings, the fewer places for wildlife to live.

Thank you,

CH

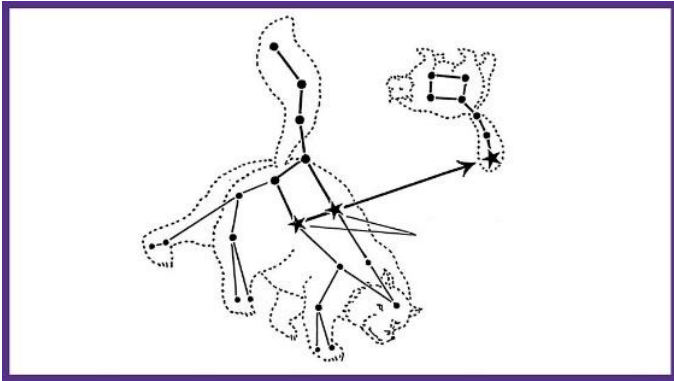
Middleton Dark Skies

June Highlights (mostly after 11.00pm due to the lighter skies at this time of the year)

Planets on View As with last month, it will be the early risers that will have the best chance of catching sight of this month's planets. Saturn rises around 1.00am with Mars following 90mins later. Even then they are rising in the pre-dawn glow out to the east, so will not appear particularly bright. Towards the middle of the month Jupiter will come back into view out towards the northeast, rising at around 3.30, and even in the pre-dawn sky will be very noticeable.

Constellations. A couple for this month. The first is Ursa Major, or at least a part of it, 'The Plough', which has been covered before, but is prominent, high up in the sky towards the northwest, even given the brighter post sunset sky down towards the horizon. It can be seen almost standing on end, with the bowl of the 'saucepan' down towards the north and the 'handle' being practically overhead. If the sky is dark enough, use the two pointer stars in the bowl to locate the Pole Star (Polaris). Polaris is at the tip of the tail of the Little Bear (Ursa Minor). Like the Plough, the Little Bear is made up of seven visible stars and resembles a saucepan, albeit smaller.

The second constellation is Cygnus (The Swan, also known as the Northern Cross), and is one of the very few constellations that doesn't need too much imagination to see how it came to get its name. At present it is high up in the eastern sky and doesn't have too many prominent stars nearby so should be fairly easy to spot. It is larger than the Plough, and as one of its names suggests is shaped like a cross. Although, given the light sky at this time of the year, it may be difficult to see, the Milky Way runs through and along the length of Cygnus, but is it probably better to wait until later in the summer to see the fantastic sight of the Milky Way arching directly overhead from one horizon to the other.



The Plough (part of Ursa Major) and Ursa Minor.



The Swan or Northern Cross

Meteor Showers Nothing of any note this month.

Comets Still no known comets to see.

The Moon The name of this month's moon is Rose or Strawberry Moon. Full Moon occurs in the early hours of the 22nd low down in the southern sky. The moon will stay relatively low in the sky during the summer, due to the tilt of the earth at this time of the year. Rule of thumb is, that if the sun is high in the sky, the moon will be low. At the Spring and Autumn Equinox, the sun, and the moon pass across the sky at roughly the same height. Early risers (pre-dawn on the 3rd) could look out for the waning crescent moon sitting next to Mars out towards the east, while on the 8th it will appear as a waxing moon just below the stars Castor and Pollux (Constellation of Gemini) in the late evening sky out towards the east.

Space Station. As it would seem with most things this month, there are no visible passes during June.

Summer Solstice. This occurs on the 20th of the month at 9.51pm.

Brian Near

D-Day Exhibition in the Church Porch
Do visit the D-Day Exhibition, put together for the
village by Mark Mitchels
From Friday 24th May to Friday 14th June



HOLY TRINITY – MIDDLETON CUM FORDLEY

Church Services during June

Sunday 16 June

11am Poetry and a Pastry*

*Please bring a poem, a prayer, some prose or perhaps a piece of music you have found inspiring and that you would be happy to read/play aloud (or to be read on your behalf) and, together with coffee and a croissant, we look forward to sitting round a table and sharing these.

Sunday 23 June

11am Holy Communion

There will be two Benefice services this month, the first will take place at Sibton on Sunday 2 June at 10am and the second at Dunwich on Sunday 30th June including a talk by Leiston Town Pastors

Please come along

A THANK YOU

On behalf of Holy Trinity PCC I would like to thank the Summer Wine Group and the donators of the materials for the work done to erect new fencing either side of the lychgate, it looks so much better. We very much appreciate what has been done, thank you.

Rita
Church Warden

PCC Members

Rita Pateman – Churchwarden tel: 01728 648377
David Burgess
Jenny Hemming
Mike Hemming
Camilla Sim
Margaret Taylor
Paul Taylor (elder!)



Pop-up Brunch

Sunday 9 June, 10-11.45am

Holy Trinity Church

Encouraged by your lovely response to the first one, we are doing it again!

Please join us if you can -

any time between 10 and 11.45am to read the papers, solve a crossword, maybe catch up with a friend while enjoying coffee and a sausage roll or something sweet on a Sunday morning. Leaving you free to saunter over to the pub when it opens at midday if you choose, or home for lunch...

Small print!

Seeking to make more use of this lovely old building and wondering how to complement and collaborate with the other good things going on in our village, it struck us that quite a few of us were missing a sausage roll in Middleton on a Sunday morning and so the idea for a pop-up brunch was born.

There will be a small charge – just enough to cover our costs. If you are free and this strikes a chord, please do join us.

Many thanks and hope to see you there

Holy Trinity PCC

If you have any questions about this event, please contact Amanda Taylor: 07990 602 563 or ajt.opom@gmail.com or Camilla Sim: 07740 427414 or camillasim9@googlemail.com



Holy Dusters 🙏

New dusters always welcome, of all faiths and none

12 June: Nicola and Margaret
10 July: Amanda and Paul
14 August: Mark and Liz
11 September: Val and Camilla
16 October: Trish and Graham

26 June: Paul
24 July: Rob
28 August: Amanda
25 September Nicola and Margaret

Thought for the Month

‘Ring the bells that still can ring
Forget your perfect offering
There is a crack, a crack in everything
That’s how the light gets in.’ Leonard Cohen

Obituary

Joanna Stone of the White House, Middleton Moor, passed away on Thursday 23rd May, after a short illness.

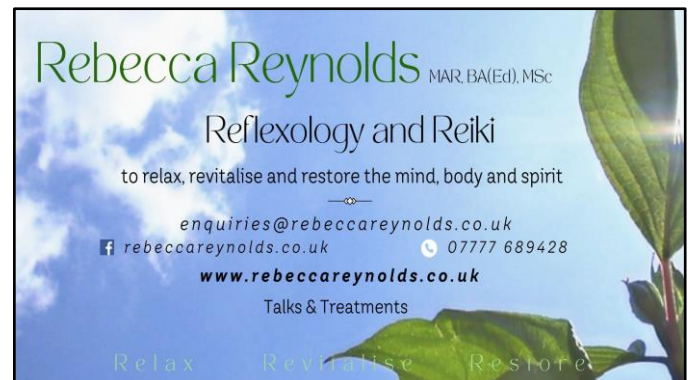
Sincere condolences to Bill and family.



For those who knew Budgie (Phil), of 1 Stone Cottages, Middleton, who passed away on the 10th April. His family have asked me to pass on details of his memorial service. It will be held in Wormingford church, nr Colchester at 2 pm on the 13th June. He will be interned there, with his parents. The family would like this to be a celebration of his life, and invite anyone who knew Budgie and would like to attend. Afterwards they will be meeting at the Shoulder of Mutton, Assington, and would love to hear any stories about Budgie’s life in Middleton.

CB

At The Bell



REMINDER

The Parish Council is seeking the views from local residents about the playing field in Fletchers Lane, Middleton, also known as the Recreation Ground. If you haven't yet filled in your questionnaire it's not too late. You can either:

- a) fill it in manually and post it into one of three 'Questionnaire Return Boxes' - located in the Church Porch, the Village Hall or The Bell Pub
- or b) scan the QR code and fill in on-line – obtainable from Kathryn Rowe on 07525 213308 if you don't have it.

June Nature Notes

Butterflies fly during the day and moths at night? Most of them do, but there are night-flying butterflies in the tropics, and in this country there are a small number of larger moths that fly during the day. These are moths that are active during the day and tend to fly when it is warm and sunny - similar to butterflies. Many of them are also brightly coloured like their close relatives, and without knowing some subtle differences, they may be mistaken for butterflies. Butterflies and moths can be distinguished through a combination of observations. Firstly, moths tend to always rest with their wings flat, whereas butterflies typically rest with their wings together. Moths also tend to rest with their antennae tucked down or folded back, whereas butterflies tend to hold theirs upwards. Lastly, butterflies have a thickened end to their antennae, giving them a slightly clubbed appearance. Moths do not have clubbed antennae.

Perhaps the most familiar of the day-flying moths is the Cinnabar moth. It is brightly coloured with red underwings and black forewings with two red spots and a red stripe on the leading edge of each wing. Cinnabar caterpillars are black and yellow and are found, often in large numbers, on Ragwort plants, often completely defoliating them. The bright colours of caterpillar and moth signify their distastefulness to predators. The similar looking Burnet moths, are commonly seen feeding on purple flowers such as knapweed and thistles. The most common is the Six-spot Burnet, which is deep black with six red spots on each forewing. Two further moths commonly seen flying during the day are the Yellow Shell – a completely yellow moth, but has brown cross banding on the wings when closely examined and the Latticed Heath moth - a splendid-looking insect with a brown lattice grid pattern on the upper-side and underside of its wings. This species is often mistaken for a butterfly as it tends to bask with its wings open and often rests with its wings held together.



Perhaps, the most interesting day flying moth that are likely to see in our gardens is the Hummingbird Hawk-moth. As its name implies it looks like very like a small hummingbird as it hovers over flowers keeping its body still while feeding through long proboscis. It looks grey in colour but its orange-brown hindwings give it colour as the wings beat in a blur. Hummingbird Hawk-moths migrate here from southern Europe and are becoming an increasingly common visitor to gardens that have plenty of nectar rich plants such as Buddleia, Red Valerian and Verbena. The Silver Y is another common immigrant species seen in gardens. They are mottled grey and brown with a distinctive silver Y mark on the forewing. Many tens of thousands arrive here each summer from North Africa, to breed here (the caterpillars feed on nettles) during the summer, producing a second generation in less than 50 days. Finally you maybe lucky to come across the Broad-bordered Bee Hawk-moth, a scarce moth nationally, but has one of its British strongholds in wooded areas on the Suffolk Sandlings where it is associated with wild honeysuckle. So-named for its resemblance to a bumblebee, it is far more agile and much larger. It has reddish-brown bands across its golden abdomen that can change to black as the hairs wear off. It also has reddish bands on its translucent forewings and long, clubbed antennae.

Peter Vincent

DGT Maintenance Services

Locally based Maintenance Company. Repairs & maintenance to all types of property. Small Jobs
Welcome, Free no obligation quotes T: 07941 243140 or 01728 668715
E: dgt maintenanceservices@gmail.com

GENERAL ELECTION 4 JULY

Suffolk Coastal Energy Hustings

Sunday, 9th June 2024, 6.30 - 8pm (doors open 6pm)
Aldeburgh Parish Church, Aldeburgh, IP15 5DU

SEAS (Suffolk Energy Action Solutions) & Stop Sizewell C
invite you to ask candidates your energy questions, including Sizewell C; Friston
Substation: Windfarms Onshore Works; SeaLink, Eurolink and Nautilus interconnectors.

Candidates confirmed so far: Thérèse Coffey (Conservative) Julian Cusack (Green), Julia
Ewart (Liberal Democrat),
Jenny Riddell-Carpenter (Labour)

Chair, Bishop Martin Seeley

Candidates will each make a 2 minute pitch followed by a 50-minute Q&A session answering your
energy questions.

Please email your questions in advance to
info@suffolkenergyactionsolutions.co.uk or info@stopsizewellc.org, or bring them early -
6pm.



SUFFOLKENERGYACTIONSOLUTIONS.CO.UK

STOPSIZEWELLC.ORG



MIDDLETON CUM FORDLEY ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 14TH MAY 2024 6pm AT THE VILLAGE HALL

1 Attendance and Apologies

Attendees:

Cllr Steve Thorpe
Cllr Lelsey Taylor
Cllr Graham Lacey
Cllr Chris Reynolds
Cllr Charles Macdowell
Cllr Michele Kendall
Cllr Kathryn Rowe
Cllr Giles Piercy

Apologies for absence:

Cllr Julian Cusack

In attendance:

Rachael Salcombe – Parish Clerk

2 Annual Reports

It was confirmed that the following Reports had been received and circulated to the PC.

Middleton-cum-Fordley Parish Council
Middleton Community Council
Middleton Village Hall
Holy Trinity Church
Women's Institute

Due to the lack of public support, the PC discussed, again, turning the Annual Parish Meeting into a hospitality event, inviting village organisations. The role of the Parish Council would be to manage the event. Flyers could be issued in advance, with notices displayed in the church, pub, and other public spaces. It is thought that organisations, such as CAB could be invited, with food and drink made available also.

3 Annual Reports from any other groups.

None received.

Meeting closed at 6.30pm.

Annual Reports

Report of the Parish Council for the year ended 31st March 2024

Sizewell C

The potential impact of the Sizewell C (SZC) project on the Parish has continued to take up much of our time in Parish Council meetings. The Development Consent Order (DCO) was approved by the Secretary of State on July 20, 2022, but funding for the project has not yet been secured and no final decision to proceed has yet been taken by the UK Government.

Nonetheless, work has started and the volume of SZC traffic flowing along the B1122 is increasing week by week.

The Parish Council remains opposed to SZC but has taken part in meetings of the B1122 Working Group established under the DCO. This Group's purpose is to consider what can be done to provide relief from the impacts of construction traffic through Middleton Moor and Theberton in the 'early years' of the project before the proposed Sizewell Link Road is operational.

We have also been represented by Parish Councillor Charles Macdowell on the various community forums set up under the DCO. So far, I think it is fair to say that we have not been reassured that SZC will take our concerns seriously. I am grateful to Charles for the time and effort he has put in to represent the Parish Council and to help individual residents.

Planning

The Parish Council is consulted on all planning applications for land and buildings in the Parish. Middleton cum Fordley is classified as a 'Small Village' in the Suffolk Coastal Local Plan which means that new housing will normally be restricted to 'Small groups of new housing and infill within Settlement Boundaries'.

The Parish Council ensures that all planning applications are considered at a duly convened meeting held in public and has normally been supportive of proposals to improve the existing housing stock.

LionLink

The Parish Council has responded to consultations on the proposal to route a cable corridor through the Parish for the LionLink inter-connector en route to a proposed converter station outside Saxmundham. We are particularly concerned at the risk to important wild-life sites where the route crosses the valley of the River Minster and we will be asking for this section to be tackled by horizontal direct drilling rather than open trenching.

Causeway Farm

We held a successful public meeting to assess community views as to options for the future of the land comprising Causeway Farm when it becomes vacant later this year. We have since met with officers of Suffolk County Council (the landowner) who have agreed to 'listen' to the views of the community. Thanks are due to Councillors Giles Piercy and Steve Thorpe for their work on this project.

Meals service

Following on from the Village Hall 'drop-in centre' initiative, the Parish Council ran a meals delivery service for Parish residents over last winter. This was warmly received by its customers and we owe an enormous debt of gratitude to Councillor Lesley Taylor who carried out this scheme, from securing funding, shopping, cooking to delivering the meals single-handedly.

Finances

The Parish Council receives income mainly from Council Tax, the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) and other occasional grants. CIL is levied on all new housing developments and can only be used for improvements to local infrastructure.

During the year we also continued to receive support from East Suffolk Council to fund the meal delivery service. At the end of March 2024, the Parish Council had general reserves of approximately £7,000. This is approximately 80% of the annual Council Tax received by the Council, which is at the high end of our financial planning guidelines. This gives us scope to consider environmental or infrastructure projects (subject to our limited powers) within the Parish and the Council would welcome proposals from residents.

Recreation Ground Trust

Successive generations of residents have always taken care of and valued the 'playing field' which is owned by the Recreation Ground Trust and operated by the Parish Council. I am grateful to Councillor Chris Reynolds for volunteering to help manage maintenance of the playing field and in particular for getting the fencing repaired. The orchard planted by Middleton WI has continued to thrive. Use of the facilities for community events and private parties continues to grow and this activity will now be better promoted by a part-time pavilion manager taken on by the Council. We are in the process of gathering residents' views on how to further develop the playing field and I am grateful to Councillors Kathryn Rowe and Michele Kendall for organizing the survey.

Village Green

The Parish Council would like to do some work to improve access to the Church from the Village Green and I am grateful to Councillor Graham Lacey for his professional advice on this project.

Middleton Moor

We are concerned about the over-growth of vegetation in the pond near Norwood House and expect to be undertaking work in the Autumn to start reducing willow growth on a island that has formed rapidly over the last few years.

Clerk

Finally, I would like to record the Council's thanks to Rachael Salcombe who is now doing a brilliant job as our Clerk.

Julian Cusack, Chair Middleton cum Fordley Parish Council May 10, 2024

Annual Report of Middleton-Cum-Fordley Community Council 2023/24

Yet again, we have had a very positive year with increasing community involvement and events, along with monies donated to chosen causes.

The King's Coronation was celebrated on the playing field with a large number of villagers taking part in this social gathering. We had trio Piccadilly Swing who as well as entertaining us all, also chose winners for our coronation hat/crown competition. A cake with cupcakes was created by villagers Jenny, Fiona and Peta and shared amongst the crowd and Adnams contributed prosecco for all those who attended. As part of this national celebration, the MCC were highly commended by the Coronation Community and we received a framed certificate to show the achievement.

Our outside Midsummer Quiz was very well attended with 8 or more tables. Peter Vincent hosted the evening and provided a brilliant quiz which was enjoyed by all.

Another activity put on purely for the community's enjoyment, rather than fundraising, was the Summer Boules which was attended by a wide selection of new and old players. Graham and Barbara celebrated as the winners after exciting final against Archie and Rebecca.

The Summer Fete, was once again held up at the playing field where we have easy access to our container, great accessible parking and we saw another large number of people visiting the afternoon's activities and dog show, or helping put up and strike the site. Silmor entertained us and the collection of different food choices, stalls and games really provided a wonderful day for all those who attended. The Chairman's plate was presented to those villagers who every month deliver the Newsletter. Next year we hope to encourage a couple more helpers for the games and parking. A total of over £2150 was raised.

The Autumn Fair was held at The Bell in October. Although the weather had been wet and windy before and after, the day was dry and the music from Random Blues Band kept everyone dancing or singing along. There were plenty of food choices, games to entertain and creative activities for children. It was well attended, although we felt that there were not as many visitors as some previous years, possibly due to the forecast of wet and windy, some may have chosen to do other indoor activities!

Remembrance Day saw the Reynolds family laying a wreath on behalf of the Community Council. Santa Boules, in early December brought together a lovely selection of the village including new boules players. The winners this year were Peter and Brian.

The Residents' Christmas Dinner returned once again to the Village Hall and was a wonderfully festive event with the Ipswich Hospital Band playing those winter tunes and everyone socialising with their fellow villagers. The food was brilliantly organised by Trish and Barbara, who had a multitude of helpers.

The cheer was also extended to the 30 resident younger people (under 18) of our village with a Christmas voucher.

The Winter seemed to be very long, so to brighten our souls, we looked towards our village residents to hold a Middleton Garden Design evening. Neill, Mandy and Steve were entertaining and informative, holding our attention and answering our questions.

This year we have contributed to the Village Hall by purchasing a freezer. Our older gazebos have steadily been replaced with sturdy new ones, so this year another was bought. We also donated to the Thursday community morning group, the newsletter and half the finances for a carpet roller for the carpet bowls group.

We continued to enable local events to freely use the MCC gazebos and tables to provide continued enjoyment for all.

MJ Bridge was awarded the bursary this year for their research and learning of old English.

Written by Rebecca Reynolds on behalf of Middleton-cum-Fordley Community Council.

Summary Annual Report for Middleton Village Hall 23/24 This year has seen two significant events. The passing of former longstanding Chairman, Basil Baker and the celebration of the Hall's

Centenary. Regular bookings continue, enough to support the Hall's upkeep and maintenance. Grants have enabled renovations and building improvements. Many thanks to all who support by attending events and activities and to the Hall Committee who give freely of their time and energy.

Richard Turner, on behalf of the Management Team.

HOLY TRINITY ANNUAL REPORT 2023/2024

During 2023 our church sadly held 7 funerals within 8 months, dear family members and good friends in the village who are greatly missed.

June saw Open Gardens weekend which was again very successful and all thanks to everyone who contributed to our main fund raiser event in so many ways.

A highlight of the year was an amazing piano concert kindly given by Reiko Fujiswa together with a violinist which was truly wonderful which the full church audience greatly enjoyed and with the proceeds distributed to village groups and the school.

Feb.2024 started off with the joy of a wedding followed by a baptism in March. Both enjoyed very good weather and such a lovely way to start off the year.

Our PCC led services were and continue to be a success with the introduction of a poetry gathering also offering croissants & coffee followed in April 2024 by a pop up brunch which saw 30 attend for bacon baps, croissants, cake and hot chocolate from Tosier in the village, all so nicely presented by those who organised the event enabling villagers to sit and chat, read a newspaper or just enjoy company.

At the end of 2023 Alan Giblin stepped down from tending our churchyard to such a high standard for many years. We are so very grateful to him for all his hard work. He has been replaced by Mayflower Services.

Whilst congregations remain low we are very grateful to all who donate on a regular basis which enables Holy Trinity to survive in these difficult times and this year we are faced with evermore expenditure for repairs for which we have to obtain grants.

We are open not just for services but as you will have seen we are trying to offer much more, as important as services are it is just as important to welcome you into our beautiful church for poetry and pop up brunch from time to time so please watch for the dates of these non religious events and come along and join us.

We sincerely thank everyone in Middleton who support Holy Trinity.

Rita

Church Warden

MIDDLETON CUM FORDLEY PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON
TUESDAY 14 MAY 2024 AT 7pm AT THE VILLAGE HALL

1 Election of Chair

Cllr Lacey proposed Cllr Cusack, Cllr Kendall seconded. There were no other nominations and Cllr Cusack was duly elected as Chair.

2 Election of Vice Chair

Cllr Thorpe proposed Cllr Taylor, Cllr Macdowell seconded. There were no other nominations and Cllr Taylor was duly elected as Vice Chair.

3 Attendance and Apologies

Attendees:

Cllr Lesley Taylor
Cllr Graham Lacey
Cllr Michele Kendall
Cllr Giles Piercy
Cllr Kathryn Rowe
Cllr Steve Thorpe
Cllr Chris Reynolds
Cllr Charles Macdowell

Apologies:

Cllr Julian Cusack

In attendance:

Rachael Salcombe – Parish Clerk
District Cllr Sarah Whitelock (7:10pm-7.50pm)
Two members of the public

4 Councillors' Declarations of Interest. None

- 5 Public Forum.** District Cllr Sarah Whitelock advised that SZC have been granted a nuclear site licence. Reference was made to areas of the B1122 that have not been resurfaced, Cllr Whitelock confirmed that she is looking into this, with the PC confirming that it is worth pursuing if it does in fact reduce the noise levels. However, it appears that resurfacing was carried out for structural purposes, rather than noise reducing purposes, and thus the section of road from the Moor to the level crossing was not resurfaced because it is already structurally sound. The question was raised as to whether noise reduction was a PR exercise. Local residents feel that they have been deliberately misled, as well as being subjected to a huge upheaval. It was reiterated that there are several vulnerable residents along the B1122. Cllr Whitelock enquired whether the PC would be interested in speed cameras. Cllr Macdowell advised that average speeds cameras are to be installed.

Cllr Whitelock has been in touch with the campaign group Suffolk Energy Action Solutions regarding Lionlink. An information evening has been proposed to which MPC agreed was a good idea. It is believed that this will take place in June. SEAS are pushing for offshore solutions, as is normal practice in Northern Europe.

6 Minutes

- a) The Council approved the minutes of the previous meeting held on 9 April 2024 and the extraordinary meeting held on 22 April 2024.
- b) **Matters arising and Action Points.**
- Village green grass cutting payment made. A further cutting has been undertaken and payment made. It was agreed to seek the Village Green Group's intentions regarding the grass cutting, given that two cuts have been made from the four agreed to for the season and to also confirm what areas are actually being cut. **Action: Clerk to liaise.**
 - No parking signs ordered and received. Six given to Cllr Taylor for the Moor and six given to Cllr Rowe for the village green. It was reported that all signs around the Moor have been removed (including SZC). **Action: Cllr Macdowell to discuss the removal of Stop SZC signs with Cllr Cusack.**
 - The PC have been signed up for the defibrillator supplies reminder service.
 - National Lottery application submitted (pond).
 - Moor Maintenance – see below.
 - PCC have confirmed that there is no money available to contribute towards the village path approach to the church. (C/f to next meeting.)
 - Updated Personal Data Audit agreed.
 - Static speed camera. A camera has been sourced and the information shared with the PC, however it was agreed to carry forward the decision on whether to purchase. (It was noted that the site/post previously used on the B1125 is corroded and provides poor vision.)
 - The new handheld speed gun was given to Cllr Taylor. Data will be collected from the Moor with a view to sharing with SZC.

7 Sizewell C and other Energy Projects

From this point forwards Sizewell C will be grouped within the minutes with other energy projects.

- It was confirmed that there will not be a 20mph speed limit through the Moor.
- There will be a permanent (through the early years, at least) average speed camera situated from Yoxford roundabout, through Middleton and Theberton to the Leiston site entrance, with 'reminder' cameras on the Moor and in Theberton. When this will be operational is an unknown.
- Identity discs are now on the rear of SZC 4 x 4 vehicles and are being fitted to contractor HGVs. They are blue ovals with SZC in the centre.
- Sizewell beach footpath will be diverted late August. It is unclear whether the park run will continue.
- Monthly reporting of HGVs. There were 1,800 movements in April, which equates to 90 per day (excluding weekends). The cap for the end of this year is 600 per day. This information is available through ESC website.
- Councillors inspected the latest maps of B1122 new signage, road marking and pedestrian improvements. Cllr Macdowell will request extension of the slow down zone through the Moor to include the unsighted sharp bend at the southeastern end of the hamlet. A Yoxford-bound HGV was recently seen to overtake a cyclist on this dangerous corner, forcing a Leiston-bound car to swerve to avoid an accident.
- There is to be no separate working group for the link road, consequently a request has been made that the link road becomes part of the B1122 working group.

- Lionlink plans show the route crossing the B1122 somewhere between the B1125/B1122 T junction and the Mill Road junction, with the corridor as wide as a motorway. How this proposal will work alongside the SZC link road remains an unknown.

8 Councillors' Reports

- Village Hall. No Report
- Middleton Primary School. No report
- Highways, footpaths and trees. It was noted that the footpath behind the playing field has been ploughed up. Cllr Thorpe has requested, through the relevant contact, that this does not happen again.
- Middleton Moor.
Pond. A quote has been received from Peter Frizzle for clearing the pond. The initial quote, that included herbicides, which are not permitted by English Nature, has been revised with the removal thereof. Three days' work, including labour, £765.00 ex.VAT. This work will represent the beginning of ongoing maintenance on an annual basis. **Action: Cllr Taylor to give the go ahead for works to commence (to fit in with the Great Crested Newt lifecycle).**
Moor Maintenance. The search for a possible contractor has been unsuccessful to date. It was agreed to put a request in the minutes for anyone who might be interested in tendering for the work, along with an advertisement in the village newsletter, deadline to be the end of July. Applicants must possess the necessary land management skills and equipment to improve biodiversity whilst maintaining the habitat for the Great Crested Newts, mowing of the Moor, management of the verges and hedges, coppicing, and buffer strips next to hedges. Please make initial contact with the Parish Clerk (parishclerkmiddleton@gmail.com / 07510 155640). **Action: Clerk to prepare and submit an advertisement for the village newsletter.**
- Causeway Farm. A summary was given highlighting the PC's understanding and position regarding the future of Causeway Farm.
 - * Although SCC do not believe that continuing to let the farm as a single unit is a viable option they are not ruling this out as a possibility.
 - * SCC will be developing a series of options for elected members to consider with respect to the farm's future.
 - * Listed below are the options that the PC (on behalf of the Middleton community) have provided: -
 New footpaths.
 Working with Suffolk Wildlife Trust.
 A care farm or similar initiative.
 Hastoe Field – The PC would like to explore the potential to acquire this land with a view to creating wildlife areas, picnic spots, woodland, and paths through to the playing field.
 Further development on Back Road and/or development of farm buildings adjacent to the existing farmhouse.
 Other lots – Individuals and/or groups are given an opportunity to express interest in aspects of the farm.

9 Finance

- The latest financial position was received and accepted by all.
- The following payments were authorised.

| Details | Payee | Amount | Power |
|---|--------------------|--------------------------|----------------|
| Clerk wages for 24/25 | Rachael Salcombe | £4,160.00 | LGA 1972 s.112 |
| Clerk OT - April 24 | Rachael Salcombe | £272.00 | LGA 1972 s.112 |
| Annual Membership 24/25 | SALC | £211.41 | LGA 1972 s.143 |
| Pavilion Manager wages for April 24 – Sept 24 | Rebecca Reynolds | £984.00 | LGA 1972 s.112 |
| Wednesday Food Delivery | Cllr Lesley Taylor | £286.35 (ratify payment) | LGA 1972 s.137 |
| Key cut – pavilion | Cllr Lesley Taylor | £28 (ratify payment) | LGA 1972 s.137 |

10 Administration

Personal Data Audit. See above.

11 Flooding/maintenance/Emergency Plan.

Cllr Lacey attended an informal meeting with Syntegra Group. At a starting point of £10,000 the cost is prohibitive.

12 **Eco-camping Planning Application, Title Road.**

Although a decision not to support this application was agreed at the Extraordinary Meeting on 22 April, and submission made on the ESC Planning Portal, it was further agreed to submit the reasons why: -

Saturated area – High Lodge, Darsham

Lack of management on site

Situated next to burial ground/reflection area

Lack of access / lack of parking

Quiet Lane

Lack of drainage / no utilities on site

Not in keeping with the village

Setting a precedent for further development

Light pollution

What makes the development Eco?

Action: Clerk to inform the Planning Department at East Suffolk Council.

13 **Correspondence.**

a) A request from a village resident to reinstate the four large flowerpots behind the water pump on the Moor was discussed, with a donation of £150 agreed upon. **Action: Cllr Thorpe to liaise directly and advise that receipts are passed to the Clerk.**

b) It was agreed, upon request, by the PC to refer to the church pathway as the village path approach to the church. **Action: Clerk to advise the Church Warden accordingly.**

14 **Items for Next Agenda.**

Agree purchase of static speed radar, SAM Solar £3,978 (and location for fixing)

Village path approach to Church

15 **Next Meeting.**

The date and time of the next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday 11 June 2024, at 7.00pm, at the Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 7.50pm.

Moor Maintenance

The Parish Council are looking to employ a company/individual who may possess the necessary land management skills and equipment to maintain and improve the 8 acres of land at Middleton Moor.

For more information, please contact the Parish Clerk.

parishclerkmiddleton@gmail.com / 07510 155640



**MIDDLETON CUM FORDLEY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING AS SOLE TRUSTEE OF
THE MIDDLETON RECREATION GROUND TRUST**

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 14 MAY 2024
AT 8pm AT THE VILLAGE HALL

1 Attendance and Apologies

Attendees:

Cllr Lesley Taylor – Vice Chair
Cllr Graham Lacey
Cllr Charles Macdowell
Cllr Steve Thorpe
Cllr Michele Kendall
Cllr Giles Piercy
Cllr Katheryn Rowe
Cllr Chris Reynolds

Apologies:

Cllr Julian Cusack

In attendance:

Rachael Salcombe - Clerk
Two members of the public

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

3 Minutes

- a) Minutes approved of Trustee Meeting held on 9 April 2024.
- b) Matters arising.
 - The playground inspector has agreed to return.
 - It was decided not to pursue the purchase of a trade waste bin and collection for the pavilion, as cost outweighs requirement. Cllr Taylor will liaise with the Pavilion Manager to ensure removal of waste, if necessary.

4 To review Safety Inspection Report

- a) April report approved.
- b) Playground inspector – see above.

5 Correspondence

Cllr Taylor shared the contents of a report from the Pavilion Manager. There is now a new dedicated email address – middletonpavilion@gmail.com. A Facebook page, which is updated weekly, has been created, including an online booking form. For those not on Facebook, it has been suggested that a facility for booking is made available through the village website. Rebecca to liaise with the Clerk directly. Bookings are shared with Cllr Taylor. An advert has gone in the village newsletter and on two local Facebook business pages. There are 5 confirmed bookings for June and July. The school have confirmed their needs, which have been added to the online calendar, including sports day. Internal painting of the pavilion has commenced. Guttering and downpipes not yet done but are scheduled. Windows will be cleaned upon completion of external painting/works.

The PC are in receipt of an email requesting that the primary school erect a bouncy slide on the recreation ground for their end of term picnic. It was agreed that a bouncy slide is not permitted on the recreation ground, although a slip and slide is acceptable. **Action: Clerk to advise.**

The PC are in receipt of an email from Middleton Community Council regarding Pavilion hire charges. It was agreed at the MCC meeting on 7 May this year that the use of the Pavilion and Recreation Ground should be free of charge for the MCC. The email enquired as to whether the decision for free usage, agreed by the PC at their meeting on 16 May 2023, still stands. A lengthy discussion followed, whereby it was agreed that a donation for use of the pavilion by MCC be considered. Clerk to await feedback.

6 Matters for discussion

Survey. Paper surveys (112 copies) were issued with the village newsletter. One response received via the village hall post-box, 7 responses via the church post-box, 3 responses via the pub and 8 electronically. **Action: Cllr Rowe to a) prepare a rota for knocking on doors, b) put a reminder in the newsletter, along with the QR Code, c) display a laminated 'reminder' poster for the playing field and d) erect a dispenser outside the pavilion to hold paper copies of the survey.**

7 Items for the next Agenda. Signage for the recreation ground c/f to next meeting.

8 Next Meeting

Date of next meeting Tuesday 11 June 2024, to follow Parish Council meeting.
Meeting closed at 8.30pm.

DIARY DATES 2024

24th May – 14th June D-Day Exhibition , Holy Trinity Church

June

| | |
|---------------------|---|
| Sat 1 st | 2 nd Anniversary VINYL NIGHT – The Bell from 6pm |
| Sat/Sun 1st/2nd | Middleton Open Gardens w/e |
| Thursday 6th | “Squit Night” – live music at The Bell – from 8pm |
| Thursday 6th | 80th Anniversary of D-Day |
| Sunday 9th | Possible Pop-Up Brunch, Holy Trinity Church |
| Tuesday 11th | Parish Council Meeting , Village Hall, 7pm |
| Wednesday 19th | WI – Village Hall – ‘Laughter and Tears’ Malcolm Knott, a lifetime in law |
| Saturday 22nd | Community Council Midsummer Outdoor Quiz, Playing Field – Village Hall if wet weather |

July

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|----------------|---|
| Thursday 4th | “Squit Night” – live music at The Bell – from 8pm |
| Tuesday 9th | Parish Council Meeting , Village Hall, 7pm |
| Saturday 13th | Summer boules tournament, playing field, 10am |
| Wednesday 17th | WI – Garden Party (Venue TBA) |

August

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|---------------|---|
| Thursday 1st | “Squit Night” – live music at The Bell – from 8pm |
| Saturday 24th | Annual Village Fete, Playing Field, 2pm |

September

| | |
|----------------|--|
| Thursday 5th | “Squit Night” – live music at The Bell – from 8pm |
| Tuesday 10th | Parish Council Meeting , Village Hall, 7pm |
| Wednesday 18th | WI – Village Hall - ‘Blood, Sweat & Fears’ Mary Newton Pathologist |

October

| | |
|----------------|--|
| Thursday 3rd | “Squit Night” – live music at The Bell – from 8pm |
| Tuesday 8th | Parish Council Meeting , Village Hall, 7pm |
| Saturday 12th | MCC Autumn Fair, |
| Wednesday 16th | WI – Village Hall – ‘The True Cost of Fish’, Andy Malcolm ~The Fishermen’s Mission |

November

| | |
|----------------|---|
| Thursday 7th | “Squit Night” – live music at The Bell – from 8pm |
| Tuesday 12th | Parish Council Meeting , Village Hall, 7pm |
| Wednesday 20th | WI – Village Hall - Cheese and Wine evening + AGM |

December

| | |
|----------------|--|
| Thursday 5th | “Squit Night” – live music at The Bell – from 8pm |
| Saturday 7th | “Santa Boules” tournament – Playing Field, 10.am |
| Tuesday 10th | Parish Council Meeting , Village Hall, 7pm |
| Saturday 14th | MCC Christmas Party –Village Hall |
| Wednesday 18th | WI–Village Hall - End Year Celebrations. Martin & Annie ~ Sizewell Gap musicians |
| Friday 20th | Carol Service, Holy Trinity, 6pm |
| Tuesday 24th | Midnight Mass, Holy Trinity, 11.15pm |

Local Lady looking for cleaning jobs with 38 years experience. All duties of housework including dusting mopping and hoovering. Also ironing. Very trustworthy friendly and reliable
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Graham Cooke DipMIT MPTA
Piano Tuner/Technician

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E-mail: grcooke@btinternet.com



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