

MIDDLETON- CUM-FORDLEY



Socially distanced work in progress.....



.... job done.

NEWSLETTER

April 2021

Editorial



Several people have asked why a yellow post has been installed at the village hall, it is to warn people of the low wall when reversing in that vicinity as the wall has been hit a couple of times and partially knocked down at least twice.

This month's front cover shows the long-awaited adaptation to the car park which Robert and Gerry completed recently. Grants were received from our local county and district councillor's budgets, the Parish council and topped up by the Village Hall funds, to complete this project. The next part of this is to landscape the bank behind it which is in the capable hands of Mandy & Steve from Manor House, more details to be found further on in this issue. Thanks to all involved both retrospectively and in advance!

As restrictions slowly begin to ease we can tentatively start to look forward to things happening again. I'm sure there'll be groups of 6 in gardens from next week, weather permitting, and there is an article from the Bell about their proposals for re-opening. We just need the right weather for the next couple of months, like last April/May.

Contributions for the next newsletter to me by email preferably as a WORD doc please to barbara.barker.t21@btinternet.com or 6 Meadowview, Rectory Road, by **Tuesday 27th April.**

Spare paper copies will be in the church porch as usual. Also to be found on the Parish website. <http://middletoncumfordleywebsite.zohosites.com>

Amazing achievement for local surgeries.

Most of us probably know this already from the TV and East Anglian Daily Times but in case you missed it...

<https://www.eadt.co.uk/news/health/suffolk-coronavirus-vaccine-coverage-by-local-area-7805930>



How many people have had the Covid vaccine in Suffolk? | East Anglian Daily Times

Almost half of over-16s eligible for the Covid vaccine in Suffolk and north Essex have received a first dose, the second-highest percentage in England, NHS data has revealed.

www.eadt.co.uk

**Middleton Amateur Weather Station
Rainfall Recordings**

	1 year ago (2020)	10 years ago (2011)	20 years ago (2001)	30 years ago (1991)	Average (1991 – 2020)
February	85.5mm	52.0mm	94.0mm	31.0mm	50mm
March	24.5mm	8mm*	92mm	26mm	47mm
April	18mm	8mm	63mm	50mm	41.3mm

note: in April 2007 there was no rain recorded here at all.

March 2021 rainfall: 46.5mm (average 50.1mm over 31 years).

[Reckford Roost Farm Shop](#)

Opening hours until Easter are:

Tuesday to Saturday 9am - 5pm, Sundays 10am - 4pm, closed on Mondays,

MIDDLETON



BELL

Re-opening schedule



From April 12th – the government’s current designated re-opening date:

The Bell will be open for drinks - at outdoor table service only - on:

Fridays and Saturdays from 5pm (commencing 16th)

Sundays from 12 noon.

Wednesday coffee mornings will resume from 14th 10am -12.

Tuesday evenings if sufficient interest.

(A patio heater is being installed)



Friday fish /scampi & chips or chow mein will still be available 5 – 7pm (pre-ordered) Tel: 648286
– you will be able to sit and eat them outside the pub from the 16th with a drink if you wish, or take away.

The restaurant will open at a later date tbc – when it is hoped we can welcome you back indoors.

During this latest lockdown we have been busy making more improvements to the exterior of the pub – we now have raised beds each side of the barn – planted with veg to be used in the kitchen, and are in the process of renewing the window boxes and hanging baskets.



Leroy would like to open an e-mailing list for customers wishing to be kept updated of any changes in-between the monthly newsletters. Please contact him to be included.

eyoy69@btinternet.com



Department for
Digital, Culture,
Media & Sport

In partnership with

THE NATIONAL LOTTERY
COMMUNITY FUND

Middleton-cum-Fordley Community Council are pleased to announce that with the help of a substantial grant from the above body we have been able to install broadband at the Village Hall, for an initial 2 year contract. Anyone using the hall will be able to access it using the WiFi code, which if nothing else will help your mobile phone reception on site!

The plans are, once the hall is fully open again, to offer anyone without internet access the opportunity to use our laptop/tablet/printer for any purpose of ordering, booking, searching, printing documents, photocopying etc etc. Initially this would be offered on a Thursday morning whilst the drop-in coffee morning was open so you could combine it with a coffee and a (probably much needed) socially distanced chat. (please see advert below.)

We have a tablet connected to the WiFi which could be used outside during the first weeks when we can't be indoors.

We understand that people are still nervous in the current situation so other times can be by arrangement if you prefer not to be with others or a Thursday isn't convenient for you. This can start after Easter - 'phone Barbara on 648726 to arrange a time.

Another option might be if your printer stops working and you need something printed you could bring your own ipad/tablet to the hall by arrangement or you could email it to mcfvillagehall@outlook.com which you can then retrieve and print at the hall. Please don't be shy of asking.

Middleton Archives - the plan is to eventually store as much as possible of the archives digitally to preserve them and once the hall is open again and restrictions lifted, plans for this can progress using our new hardware. In the meantime, we now have the facility to copy anything (up to A4 size) that residents might have to share for the archive, or receive anything digitally from you, on the above email. It would be quite good to compile a "Middleton in lockdown" section.

More details on digitalising archives will come in due course, but anyone interested in volunteering for this project later in the year we'd like to hear from you. BB

~~~~~

## Drop-in coffee morning

With the return of the group of 6, weather permitting, the drop-in coffee morning will re-convene at the Village Hall on Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> April (not an April Fools joke!!) 10 - 11.30am

We will be outside in the sheltered part at the back of the hall so wrap up and bring a blanket if you wish. It will be sooo good to see people again and meet some new ones!!!

All welcome - transport can be arranged if needed.

Contact Lesley 07970257329 or Lynda 668977

Don't forget you can avail yourself of any of our new IT installations if you need to.



22<sup>nd</sup> of March 2021

**RE: Back Road, Middleton**

Dear Householder,

We have been awarded the contract to construct 6 new dwellings on the behalf of Hastoe Housing Association on the land adjacent to the Back road/Rectory road junction.

Initially, enabling works for the site welfare and access will begin this week, with the new drainage and hardstanding to follow. The project is forecasted to be completed before Christmas 2021.

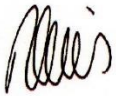
We appreciate there will be a level of disruption whilst the construction works are in progress, but we will take all reasonable measures to ensure these are kept to a minimum.

We will have a site compound set up on the site, should you wish to visit us during construction with any questions you may have, however, for your own safety do not go on to the site without the supervision of the Site Manager.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact our Contracts Manager, Kyle Crush 07718647263.

Your co-operation is appreciated.

Yours faithfully,



Ricky Lewis  
Construction Director



On their first day on site, the workmen struck a water main. They had been warned that it might run up through the field rather than along the road, but they chanced it!

Mark



IP17 Good Neighbour Scheme (IP17GNS) is a charity run by volunteers to support people in IP17 postcodes through the coronavirus lockdown

**and beyond.**

If you need help, call between 10am and 4pm, 0333 335 5266  
For non-urgent requests, please email: [help@ip17gns.com](mailto:help@ip17gns.com)

You may or may not have heard Bryony Peall, our local organiser, on Radio Suffolk with Mark Murphy on Tuesday. This project is doing brilliantly and you can hear the article on <https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/p0994blj> starting at counter 2.04.38.

Art in a Bag

The Leiston Good Neighbour Scheme has provided Middleton cum Fordley Parish Council with five Art Bags which are free to anyone in the parish. The bags contain different activities involving cut up poetry and making a fan-fold book. Everything is included except scissors. If you would like a bag please contact the Parish Clerk on [parishclerkmiddletoncumfordley@gmail.com](mailto:parishclerkmiddletoncumfordley@gmail.com) or 01728 648576.

.....  
**HOLY TRINITY, MIDDLETON-CUM-FORDLEY**

Services for April (as at going to press)

April 4th Easter Sunday - Communion, 11 am

April 11th Morning Praise, 11 am

April 25th Communion, 9.30 am with Theberton

The church will be open on Good Friday (2 April) from 12.00 noon until 3pm for private prayer and as a place to pause

A message from our Rector

With the backing of each PCC of this benefice, we are recommencing worship in person in church, starting from Palm Sunday (28 March).

We are still under national lockdown, and so we should strictly maintain our 'hands, face, space and ventilation' routine. Before the start of church and at the end, please be careful to avoid bottlenecks of people at the door and please resist stopping to chat in the doorway!

When we take communion we will share the bread only. In Middleton the minister will come to you in your pew. If you are still unsure about taking communion, please just keep your hands down and the minister will pass you by — no offence will be taken! I'm sympathetic that there are different preferences for the taking of communion and I wish I could please everyone! Sadly, I cannot, and I am minded that this is only temporary — we live in the great hope that later this year we will be able to resume 'normal' communion as we have traditionally practised it. Before then, I can only request patience and understanding.

Some people are still wary of attending church at all, or may feel that attending church breaks the spirit of lockdown, if not the law. For your sake we will continue to hold a service on zoom on Sunday afternoons — but this will now be a simpler, non-sacramental service. We will also continue to say compline by zoom after the Lent course on Wednesdays (8.45ish for the compline) and after Easter compline will continue at 8pm. Naturally we will review the success and popularity of these options as time passes.

The sunrise service at Dunwich cannot be held on the beach but must be held in Dunwich churchyard (gatherings of any sort remain illegal except for worship at a place of worship).

For now, be of good cheer, pray lots and stay safe — Easter is coming!

Tim.





# CALLING ALL MIDDLETON GARDEN OWNERS!

*Can you help us to make a bright and beautiful bankside at the Middleton Village Hall?*

What a fantastic response to our 'Snowdrop appeal'! Thank you to everyone who's been able to contribute – it's wonderful that there will be such a wide mixture of snowdrops from all around the village coming up in the bankside behind the new disabled parking area in future years. If you didn't see the appeal in the last Newsletter extras and would still like to contribute any of your own snowdrops in the green for the village hall it's not too late - just drop them off wherever is nearest to you: Mandy & Steve's (Manor House, Leiston Rd), Barbara's (6 Meadowview, Rectory Rd) or leave them at the Village Hall itself (you can tuck them round the back in the shade next to the new disabled parking area) and we will find them when next there and plant them for you.

We had hoped to have completed the installation of a rabbit-proof barrier in the soil on the bank itself this week but best laid plans and all that... next week hopefully.

Not all plants would be happy growing in this situation but there are some which will naturalise well on such a steep bankside.

We already have some small spreading shrubs to put in and would like to underplant so that eventually all the soil is covered again. Here is a list of plants we are now on the lookout for. If you should have any of these in your garden that you are happy to split up at the moment and contribute for the village hall that would be fantastic. Thank you.

*(for any of these we would only want small offshoots - which will establish much better than large clumps):*

**Ajuga reptans**/bugle (any variants)

**Bulbs: Crocus, Scilla**

**Geranium macrorrhizum** (rock crane's-bill)

**Lamium** (dead nettle)

**Primroses** (English/wild)

**Symphytum** (ideally 'Hidcote Blue or Pink' but normal Comfrey also good)

**Vinca Minor** (lesser periwinkle - not the large one, that's already there)

**Violets** (English/common/wood violet)

Same places to leave them as for the snowdrops. Thank you again!

Mandy & Steve [mobilemandy@me.com](mailto:mobilemandy@me.com)

Tel: 648212



Middleton-cum-Fordley Community Council AGM will take place on Wednesday 5th May 2021, most likely by Zoom. Please note date change due to Parish Council changing theirs to be before the local council elections.

Middleton Village Hall Management AGM will now take place on Thursday 6th May again by Zoom.

Further details and times of both meetings to be confirmed in next newsletter but will be evening.

**New members will very, very welcome especially for the VH management as our numbers are low. Please contact [jenricht@btinternet.com](mailto:jenricht@btinternet.com) for more information about either organisation.**

## April Nature Notes

In early spring, when it is warm and the sun is shining, is the time to look and also to listen (as they make quite a loud high pitched buzzing sound) for bee flies in your garden. They only occur early in the year, sometimes as early as February, but usually they can be seen from March to May. Though, bee flies cannot fly when the temperature is below 17°C but can walk if warmer than 12°C. When cold they perch vertically upwards and can remain immobile for a week or more, but by keeping low to the ground, basking on warm soil and keeping out of the wind, the required temperatures can be met even on less favourable days.

Bee flies resemble bees, an example of Batesian mimicry, but are actually true flies (Diptera), having only short antennae and of course only one pair of wings. They have a stout body, 10-12mm in length, covered with tawny brown hairs and a long proboscis which is held out straight. The proboscis can sometimes cause alarm but they do not bite or sting and is used just to drink nectar from spring flowers, Bee flies are excellent flyers, not only hovering in front of flowers but able to rotate its body in flight. They are catholic in its choice of flowers and will visit a range of spring flowers, such as primroses, lesser celandine, ground ivy, violets and bugle. It's very long tongue allows it to feed on flowers with deep nectaries, which insects with short tongues are unable to utilise.



There are nine species of bee fly in Britain. Most are uncommon insects mainly confined to southern England. However, one species *Bombylius major*, the dark-edged bee fly is common and is the one that frequently occurs in gardens. The common name refers to a scalloped, dark brown coloured area on the front edge of the wing, which contrasts strongly with an otherwise transparent wing. This feature is only visible when the fly is at rest. In flight, the wing movement is too rapid for the dark marking to be seen. Another bee fly species, *Villa modesta* is found on sandy cliffs and dunes along the Suffolk coast, but occurs later in the year.

Adult bee flies only drink nectar, but their larvae have a rather different lifestyle preying on solitary bee larvae, particularly *Andrena* species. To do this adult females collect dust or sand at the tip of their abdomen, using it to coat their eggs, which is thought to provide camouflage and perhaps also add weight to them. The female then proceeds to find areas of ground where solitary bees have made nest-burrows, hovering over the burrows to flick her eggs into them. The added weight from the sand or dust may make it easier to flick the tiny eggs through the air into the burrows. The bee fly's larva then hatch, crawls further into the bee burrows and waits for the bee's own larva to grow to almost full-size, at which point the bee fly larva attacks the bee larva, feeding on its body fluids and eventually killing it. Once fully grown the bee fly larva pupates and waits till the spring to emerge as an adult and start the cycle again. Although this may sound bad for the solitary bees, bee flies are a natural part of the ecosystem and there is no evidence they harm bee populations.



## WI News

At our March Zoom meeting Michael Rines gave us a talk on the Bombardment of Scarborough 1914. He has a personal interest in this story, his mother lived through it. At the time Scarborough was a popular seaside resort. Fashionable Victorians and Edwardians would flock to its natural springs, a 12th century castle overlooked the terraces, the spa, the bandstand, the harbour and pier, and the 365 bed Grand Hotel, the biggest in the world in 1914. Before 1913 there were even many German tourists.

On the 16th December 1914, the war was only about 4 months old and until then hadn't really affected the UK population so on that morning people were going about their usual business. About 8am, 6 German battleships emerged from the mist, 3 headed to Whitby and Hartlepool and 3 steamed towards Scarborough. The last time Scarborough was attacked was in the time of Oliver Cromwell. The ships blasted the town with 500 shells hitting the Castle, the Grand Hotel, shops, businesses, trams, houses, and the school. In a recording that Michael played us, his mother who at time of the attack was 8 years old, tells us some of her memories. She was living in a 5 story house ( many children in the family) which was not touched but remembers going afterwards to look at the extensive damage around town and upon seeing the bombed out school said that if the shelling had happened an hour later she would have been in the school! She and her family were lucky that day but 17 others were killed and 80 were injured. Also in that recording, Michael's mother talked about living through the 1918 Spanish Flu pandemic. Her whole family contracted the flu but again luckily, they all survived. There were 220,000 deaths in the UK. The last memory that she shared in that recording was of the General Strike in 1926. She found herself in London without a way to get home, there were no trains running!

We thanked Michael for giving us an interesting fact filled talk and sharing his mother's words with us. We will Zoom again in April.

LV

~~~~~

Free Desk



The desk (without all my gubbins) is free to a good home, or any home! Has a pull-out surface for the keypad. On casters, although not sure they will survive another move, but not necessary for it to function. Is there anyone else who still uses a tower PC, I wonder?! Quite useful for other uses....

Caroline

howlett.c@btinternet.com

Open Gardens 14th and 15th August 2021



We are keeping our fingers crossed that by August some restrictions will be lifted to enable our 2021 event to take place. Plans are tentatively underway.

I will be contacting all those of you who kindly opened your gardens in the past to confirm that you will be happy to do so again this year if the virus situation allows.

We can all work together to ensure that the event adheres to all necessary restrictions for the safety of gardeners and visitors alike.

Now Middleton has grown over the last few years and so we are fortunate to have more new gardens. So if you have not opened your garden before here is your opportunity. If you need to know more about the event in "usual" times please do get in touch. I would be delighted to hear from you.

Irene Ralph

648622 or email ireneralph333@gmail.com

CITIZENS ADVICE LEISTON & SAXMUNDHAM

As the country comes out of lockdown (again!) we are expecting to see more changes for many people in our area with their employment and finances.

Citizens Advice Leiston Saxmundham and District works closely with organisations in the community. We are therefore aware of support available to people who have financial worries. So, for example, with schools now back, no doubt many children have grown out of their uniforms during this lockdown period. If you are struggling to get your secondary school children equipped, do get in contact as we may be able to help.

Citizens Advice also helps clients with a financial health check to review your income and outgoings. It means checking that you are receiving all the income you should be and that you aren't paying more for services you need - or even paying for services you don't need at all.

We continue to remain open but with no face to face meetings - you can reach us by phone, email or post.

Alison Moor

01728 832193 or Freephone 08082787868

Mon. Tue. Thur. Fri 10am -2pm

supervisor@leistoncab.cabnet.org.u



DO YOU NEED HELP AT HOME?

Domestic tasks such as cleaning, ironing, shopping, preparing meals, light gardening duties and dog walking, then give me a call for a chat, local to Middleton. Call Tori on 07955859496

Middleton News

Ash Class

Ash class have been busy practising their fine motor skills making coil pots and hand bowls for Mother's Day!



Maple/Spruce Class

This week in Maths, Key Stage 2 has been looking at the connection between art and maths. We used our measuring skills to create curves of pursuit, fractions, decimals and percentages on a 100 square and our multiplication and ruler skills to create a cardioid.

Each afternoon in Art, we have been working to create a collage of an animal. This had to be done in stages. The first stage, the children used pastels and watercolours to make a colourful background. Then they experimented with monochrome lines and patterns. The next stage was the hardest for us all as we had to tear all our work into strips!! I look forward to next week when we will continue and turn our strips into beautiful cats, dogs and birds.



Tidying up

Some of the children made sure that Middleton Primary School looked tidy and fresh by planting some colourful flowers out the front.



1. Attendance and Apologies

Attendees:

Cllr. Nigel Smith - Chair
Cllr. Roy Dowding - Vice-Chair
Cllr. Julian Cusack
Cllr. Lynda Whitbread
Cllr. Colin Whitbread
Cllr. Chris Reynolds
Cllr. Steve Thorpe
Cllr. Lesley Taylor

Apologies for absence:

District Cllr. Tony Cooper

In attendance:

Sharon Smith - Clerk/RFO
County Cllr. Richard Smith
District Cllr. Jocelyn Bond
District Cllr. Terry-Jill Haworth-Culf
9 members of the public

2. Councillors' Declarations of Interest None.

3. Public Forum

a) Cllr. Nigel Smith informed the Council that a resident had sent two objections arising from the minutes of the last meeting.

The first objection was about the Council's stance on the legacy of the Sizewell Link Road after the construction period should Sizewell C go ahead. Cllr. Smith said the Council had reserved its position to EDF until it had heard the views of residents. Cllr. Smith said there were three different points of view: (1) people most affected, where the road cuts through their land or runs past their front door are keen to see the road removed, (2) those living along or near to the B1122, which will have become a quiet country lane wish to see the road remain, especially given the increased traffic to the Sizewell complex, and (3) those who are less directly affected who wish to see the countryside and the cross-country lanes and paths restored. Cllr. Smith said that given the divergence of opinions, he proposed the Council holds an Extraordinary meeting where residents can give their views, so that the Council can take an informed decision as to the line to take with EDF at the next meeting in early April. It was agreed to convene this meeting for 30th March at 6:00 pm. **ACTION: Clerk to convene an Extraordinary meeting.**

The second objection was about the words 'met with residents' regarding the proposal to commission Suffolk Wildlife Trust to update the Moor management plan. Cllr. Julian Cusack apologised for the error in the minutes and said he may have misspoken at the meeting when he reported on the Moor. Cllr. Cusack said that what should have been reported was that he had consulted with the three Parish Councillors who live on the Moor. Cllr. Cusack acknowledged that there should be a meeting with the residents to discuss the management proposals for the Moor and proposed that this take place as soon as COVID restrictions allow. Cllr. Cusack will prepare a cost/benefit analysis and share it with interested Moor residents and with the Summer Wine Group. Cllr. Cusack said that Natural England no longer produce or revise management plans. Our previous Natural England adviser, Matthew Ginn, has moved on, but Cllr. Cusack has spoken to his successor. The current management plan was produced by the District Council in 2003. Cllr. Cusack has been advised that the best we can expect from Natural England is a site visit. In 2013, following such a visit, Matthew Ginn himself commissioned a report on the ponds from SWT. The first stage of the SWT work is planned for April/May to review the ponds and assess the Great Crested Newt population as this is by far the best time of year to do this. This phase of the work will be free of charge. The proposed work on preparing an updated plan does not need to start until the Council has had time to consult all interested parties.

The resident said the minutes implied that a convivial meeting was held and that all the residents were in agreement. The resident said this was untrue. The resident said he thought the Moor Management Group were in charge of the Moor but acknowledged that this may not be the case and a new committee may have been appointed with Cllr. Cusack as Chairman. He said the MMG have not been consulted and they have not met recently due to COVID restrictions. The resident added that Natural England regularly inspect the Moor. Cllr. Cusack said he was sorry this impression had been given. He said the MMG last met in June 2019. When Jane Etheridge left the Council she asked Cllr. Cusack to take over dealing with the financial matters related to the Moor agreement.

The resident asked whether the MMG or the Council controls the ring-fenced funds. Cllr. Cusack explained that the receipts from the Rural Payments Agency are taken to a ring-fenced fund in the Council's books. The current balance is £2,726. Three more annual payments of £810 are due, with the last payment due in December 2023 when the agreement with Natural England comes to an end. The major expenditure from the fund over the years have been £250 to the B1122 Action Group in 2014, £2,219 for speed detection equipment in 2017 and £1,032 for machinery in 2019. Cllr. Cusack said it has been the usual practice for the MMG to take the lead on, or be consulted about, payments from the fund but all payments are approved by the Council. Cllr. Cusack said the intention was to continue with this practice and he was not suggesting any change. Cllr. Nigel Smith said the Council reserves the right to change this decision.

b) Two residents informed the Council that they had created and distributed a survey asking for views about the legacy of the Sizewell Link Road. The residents said they had been campaigning to have the road removed after the construction period. The underlying principles are to undermine EDF as they have not properly consulted on this matter and to push them to reconsider alternative routes as removing the Link Road will double its costs. This may dovetail

into our MPs aspirations to streamline industrial and legacy benefits. If responses received are in favour of removal, then the Planning Inspectorate may require EDF to consider alternative routes such as the D2. The residents welcomed participation in the survey as they are keen to understand local views. They are concerned with the way the Link Road cuts through Middleton, Westleton and Theberton and the difficulties presented with access. County Cllr. Richard Smith said the County Council did not wish to adopt the road and agreed with the residents' position and the Link Road should be removed after construction. He said EDF do not wish to do this due to cost. The District Council have an opposite view, but as the County are the Highways authority they will have a greater say. He said it was a pity there was not cross-council agreement. Cllr. Richard Smith said the County will stand firm on this position and insist upon it to the Planning Inspectorate. Another resident raised concerns about the volume of traffic the B1122 will have to take if the Link Road is removed. He said the area surrounding the new station will have become a major industrial site which a major traffic load placed on roads leading to the site.

c) County Cllr. Richard Smith asked for an invitation to the Extraordinary meeting about Sizewell C. He has been advised by his Officers that he does not need to speak at the first preliminary meeting as it is only a technical/procedural meeting and, at all stages, a barrister will represent the County Council and ensure that its views are put across forcibly and properly.

Cllr. Smith said the vaccination roll out was going very well, particularly from Saxmundham surgery who were offering spare vaccines to police officers. In the NHS England data tables, Saxmundham came first as the most vaccinated area in England.

The purdah period for the County Council elections begins on 25th March therefore he will not attend next month's meeting as it is important that all candidates are treated equally. Cllr. Smith said he has enjoyed his time with Middleton cum Fordley and he has been proud to serve as its County Councillor. He remains in his position until 6th May therefore he can be contacted by email or telephone if there are any issues or concerns.

d) District Cllr. T-J Haworth-Culf summarised the monthly Ward report. She reported that unregistered carers are now being invited to contact their surgery to request a vaccine. A testing site has opened in Aldeburgh and lateral flow tests can be ordered for school-age children from the County Council website.

e) District Cllr. Jocelyn Bond said she is aware of continuing concerns about inaccuracies in planning applications. Other Parish Councils have similar concerns, and this was raised at a planning referral meeting. Cllr. Bond said she forwarded the latest planning application for Sizewell A as it may be of interest. She said she had asked the District Council to consult with the community about all the Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects in the area. This request was declined as there is insufficient time between the consultations. Cllr. Bond and Cllr. Haworth-Culf continue to encourage residents to engage in the consultations. Cllr. Bond said the District Councillors must also comply with the purdah period therefore they will not attend the Council's next meeting.

4. Minutes and Matters Arising

There was one amendment to the minutes of the meeting held on 9th February 2021. It was agreed to change item 7 to read 'discussed a proposal with three Parish Councillors who reside on the Moor' instead of 'met with residents'. The minutes were then approved as a true and accurate record. There were no matters arising.

5. Casual Vacancy

The Clerk confirmed there were no requests for an election received within the casual vacancy notice period and the Council may therefore fill the vacancy by co-option. It was agreed to contact previous applicants in the first instance.
ACTION: Cllr. Nigel Smith to contact previous applicants.

6. Planning and Hastoe Housing

a) Cllr. Nigel Smith reported that the Hastoe development for affordable and accessible housing has begun on Back Road. He noted that the road is not being widened but a 60 metre visibility splay is being put in. Cllr. Smith said this was not warranted on a 20 mph lane. Cllr. Smith asked the District Councillors to take this back to the Planners and ask them to interrogate Highways about the need for this. District Cllr. T-J Haworth-Culf asked Cllr. Smith to contact the County Councillor or the Cabinet Member responsible for Highways to ask for their reasoning. Cllr. Haworth-Culf asked to be copied in and she would share it with the Planners. Cllr. Smith accepted that the decision has already been taken for the Hastoe site and it is too late to change but the principle needs to be raised.
ACTION: Cllr. Nigel Smith to write to ESC Planners.

b) Cllr. Steve Thorpe referred to his previously circulated note which was published in the newsletter. The contractors are aware of the environmental sensitivity attributed to the removal of an old field hedgerow and, where possible, they will limit the removal of trees, shrubs and the bank itself. A power line pole will also have to be re-sited. The contractors will undertake replanting and Cllr. Steve Thorpe has asked to be involved with this.

7. Highways, Footpaths, Trees and Green Issues

a) Cllr. Chris Reynolds reported that the Quiet Lanes consultation period ends on 14th March and if no objections are received by this date then the nominated lanes will be put forward for Highways approval. Cllr. Reynolds will review the existing sign poles on the lanes and confirm which are eligible for a Quiet Lanes sign. Cllr. Reynolds is confident that the Highways budget will cover the signage costs.

b) The Clerk reported that the Council is eligible to apply to the Suffolk Coasts and Heaths AONB Fund however the application for swift nesting boxes was unsuccessful. The Clerk was subsequently contacted by the Nature Recovery Officer for the Dedham Vale AONB and Stour Valley Project who was also applying for swift nesting boxes and he said he was willing to include Middleton's requirements in his bid. SOS Swifts and Suffolk Wildlife Trust will provide one free community package of 6 boxes and a call system. A representative advised that the primary school and the church are the only community buildings suitable for the nesting boxes as they need to be sited 4.5 metres high with a clear line of flight. The Church Warden indicated that the Diocese will be in favour of swift boxes as part of their wildlife policy.

ACTION: Clerk to progress project to site swift nesting boxes on the Church.

8. Recreation Ground

a) The Council agreed to obtain quotations to replace sections of the fencing at the Recreation Ground to ensure it is rabbit-proof. The work will be funded by the Recreation Ground Trust. **ACTION: Cllr. Julian Cusack to progress.**

b) To ensure the success of rabbit-proofing the Recreation Ground, the Council agreed to affix self-closing mechanisms to the gates. Cllr. Chris Reynolds suggested that Eastern Play Services may be able to advise on suitable devices. **ACTION: Cllr. Julian Cusack and Cllr. Steve Thorpe to progress.**

c) The Council agreed to look into ways to prevent parking on the overflow parking area when it is not in use due to damage to the grass surface. **ACTION: Cllr. Lesley Taylor to progress.**

d) Cllr. Julian Cusack reported that a cleaner has been sourced for the pavilion and a toddler group has booked for a weekly session. Cllr. Cusack plans to contact Eastern Play Services to conduct the annual operational inspection of the play equipment.

9. Summer Wine Group

Cllr. Colin Whitbread reported that two socially distanced groups met recently. They cleared round the pond, the verge and the flowerpots on the Moor and the debris was removed to private land.

10. Energy Projects

Cllr. Roy Dowding reported that the first preliminary Sizewell C meeting will be held on 23rd March. The Council agreed to register to speak at the meeting about the underlying principles and to report that agenda items 4 and 5 are not in the correct order. No response has been received yet to the Council's letters to the Rt Hon Anne-Marie Trevelyan MP and Philip Ridley, ESC Head of Planning. **ACTION: Clerk to register to speak at Preliminary Meeting.**

11. Village Hall and Primary School

a) Cllr. Lynda Whitbread reported that the disabled car parking space is in place and the post to protect the brick wall has been painted yellow. PAT testing of the electrics, installation of broadband and general maintenance is due to take place next month. Cllr. Steve Thorpe was consulted about proposals to landscape and stabilise the bank.

Cllr. Lesley Taylor agreed to canvass support for resuming the drop-in coffee mornings outside from 1st April if the weather is fine. These will be COVID secure if the rule of 6 is adhered to.

The Council authorised further expenditure of £100 for the disabled car parking space due to a rise in the cost of materials. It was agreed to ask the Village Hall Management Committee if it is willing to reimburse this amount.

ACTION: Clerk to contact the Village Hall Management Committee.

b) Cllr. Lynda Whitbread said she would send a card to the primary school to thank them for supporting the children and parents through lockdown.

12. Finance

a) The Council noted the latest financial position.

b) The Council noted the Local Government Act s.137 expenditure limit for 2020/2021 and 2021/2022.

c) The Council agreed to donate £50 to the Coastal Accessible Transport Service.

d) The Council authorised the payments below:

Details	Payee	Amount	Power
Clerk's Salary (7 weeks to year end)	Sharon Smith	£353.10	LGA 1972 s.112
Clerk's PAYE	HMRC	£39.60	LGA 1972 s.112
Clerk's Expenses	Sharon Smith	£48.63	LGA 1972 s.111
Pavilion Electricity	British Gas	£35.15	PHA 1936 s.87

13. Administration

- a) The Council conducted the annual review and approval of the Asset Register.
- b) The Council conducted the annual review and approval of the Internal Controls Statement.
- c) The Council conducted the annual review and approval of the Suffolk Local Code of Conduct.

14. Correspondence

The Council noted the correspondence received between 4th February 2021 and 3rd March 2021.

15. Next Meeting

- a) The Council confirmed the date and time of the next Ordinary meeting which is scheduled for Tuesday 13th April 2021 at 6:00 pm.
- b) The Council agreed to reschedule the Annual Parish Meeting and the Annual Meeting to Tuesday 4th May 2021 at 6:00 pm and 7:00 pm respectively.
- c) The Council agreed to convene an Extraordinary meeting for Tuesday 30th March 2021 at 6:00 pm to hear the views of residents about the Sizewell C proposals.

Public and press are welcome to attend all meetings. The details to join via Zoom are:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6512941956?pwd=K29wbDZtUnhuaHRUTkxIWtZRQW1YQT09>

Meeting ID: 651 294 1956 Password: 3cwRhj

The meeting closed at 7:30 pm.

Parish Council - Chairman's Report

New Councillor needed

We are looking to co-opt a parish councillor. If you think you might fit the bill or if need more information before you put your hand up, please have a word with Sharon or me.

Extraordinary Meeting

The Extraordinary Meeting to discuss the Parish Council's stance on whether the proposed Sizewell Link Road should be dug up on completion of the two reactors will take place **at 6.00 p.m. on Tuesday 30 March**. The EGM will have to be a virtual event: the Zoom link is set out below.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6512941956?pwd=K29wbDZtUnhuaHRUTkxIWtZRQW1YQT09> Meeting ID: 651 294 1956 Passcode: 3cwRhj

If you have friends or neighbours who do not have the internet, please let them know. They can join by phone. It's not ideal – but open face-to-face meetings are out of the question and we need to move fast. Members of the public wishing to speak must register to do so by informing the Parish Clerk on parishclerkmiddletoncumfordley@gmail.com or **01728 648576** by 5:00 pm on 30th March 2021. Speakers will be taken in the order in which they are received and will be invited to speak by the Chairman.

Nigel Smith (ns@hewdon.com: 01728 648348)

PC website <http://middletoncumfordleywebsite.zohosites.com>

ORLANDO HANNON
Gardening Services

weeding - pruning - mowing - tidying
lawn care - planting - propagating

ollo.hannon@btinternet.com
07770 617050 / 07815 295927

Taylor Made Flowers


Qualified Wedding and Event Florist

Lesley Taylor

Mobile: **07970257329**

Email: taylormadeflowers@yahoo.co.uk

Red Lodge Barn, Middleton Moor



Rebecca Reynolds MAR, BA(Ed), MSc

I am pleased to be able to
Welcome You Back.

Be assured that there have been changes made inline
with official guidance to my treatment room along
with some procedure modifications.

Reflexology & Reiki
to balance the natural rhythms of the body,
mind and spirit.

Give yourself some ME time for those worries, aches,
pains, stresses and imbalances.

Relax, Revitalise and Restore

Middleton Treatment Room
Talks and Business Wellbeing

www.rebeccareynolds.co.uk
enquiries@rebeccareynolds.co.uk
07777 689428 01728 648594

#Support your local therapist


[Hoping to restart in April.](#)

Great Gardens!!

J.W. Garden

Garden Maintenance
Brick work, Hedge Trimming,
Weed Removal, Turf Care

Joelwatsonjw@aol.co.uk
07881376314
Westleton Rd, Saxmundham
IP17 3BS



Graham Cooke DipMIT, MPTA
PIANO TUNER

Central House
The Street
Middleton
Saxmundham
IP17 3NJ



Tel: 01728 648900
e-mail: grcooke@btinternet.com

Bank details for BACS donations:

HSBC

Middleton Newsletter sort code 40-28-33
account number 61054236

MBK
Electrical

Michael Kennedy

Allestree
Rectory Road
Middleton
Suffolk IP17 3NP
Tel: 01728 648865
Mob: 07968 160511
mbk@allestree.me.uk

Inspection
Testing & Installation

N. J. Day Builders



07946386665 (01728)648659

Sue's Counselling Service

Are you affected by stress, anxiety,
depression?

Is Covid-19 impacting on your
mental wellbeing?

Whatever your struggle is, Sue's
Counselling Service can help.



Sue's Counselling Service
suescounselling.cbt@gmail.com
www.suescounsellingservice.co.uk
07549 892 246



DGT Maintenance Services

Your locally based Maintenance Company for

Building Repairs & maintenance to all types of property

Also Fencing & Garden works, Small Jobs Welcome

Free no obligation quotes

Telephone: 07941243140 or 01728 668715

Email: [dgtmaintenanceservices@gmail](mailto:dgtmaintenanceservices@gmail.com)