

# MIDDLETON- CUM-FORDLEY



## NEWSLETTER

*July 2022*

## Editorial

Firstly I have to say I was disappointed, as many of us were, that the Jubilee Flypast I mentioned last month did not come overhead here. Every other year there's been one they have assembled over the sea off Southwold and come over us, as many long-time residents will attest to. I was rather hoping to get a front cover photo from it but instead have gone with Open Gardens photos.

We have several upcoming events in July, advertised in this issue, and as promised more details about the annual village fete, for which manpower is sought.

Contributions for the next newsletter to me by email preferably as a WORD doc please to [barbara.barker.t21@btinternet.com](mailto:barbara.barker.t21@btinternet.com) or 6 Meadowview, Rectory Road, by [Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> July](#)

Spare paper copies will be in the church porch as usual. Also to be found on the Parish website. [www.middletoncumfordley.org.uk](http://www.middletoncumfordley.org.uk)

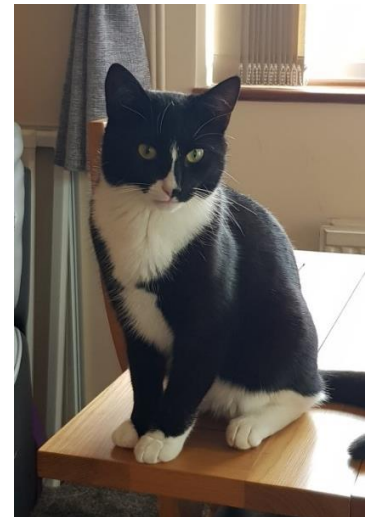
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## Missing Cat – Rascal – from Rectory Road

We last saw Rascal on 23rd May & are really quite worried now.

If anyone has any info my mobile is 07786 928747.

Thanks  
Becky



## MCC OUTDOOR QUIZ

The quiz held on the playing field on June 25<sup>th</sup> was attended by 7 teams and by all accounts everyone had an enjoyable time, especially if the array of picnics was anything to go by!!!! Thank you to quizmaster Peter for writing and delivering on a varied selection of subjects with minimal amount of disputed answers!

Beaux Belles were the eventual winners, congratulations, I think I'm right in saying their first quiz win for some time !!! Commiserations to Buck's Quiz who collected the wooden spoon (although not actually a spoon!). Around £120 was raised from the entrance money and raffle. Thank you everyone who attended.

Other Community Council news – we are pleased to announce that as of the AGM Rebecca Reynolds, of Hill House, was elected to take over the Chairman's role and we wish her well in this. She takes over from Richard Turner (who has been trying to relinquish the job for a couple of years!) and we must heartily thank him for the many hours – many unseen behind the scenes - put in over many years. He will be a hard act to follow – but he is still part of MCC as Vice Chair.



# Middleton-cum-Fordley Jubilee Picnic

Come and Join us at the Playing Field  
12 noon – 3pm  
Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> July



Bring your own picnic and chair or blanket or maybe a game, chat with friends and meet new people.

This event is about bringing our community together, to have fun and celebrate



You might be thinking - hang on a minute - the main celebrations have concluded . So they have, but the brief given earlier in the year was to have community celebrations at any time this spring or summer. Therefore because so many residents were involved in Open Gardens on the main Jubilee Weekend it was decided to have a 'get together' later, rather like we did for the Diamond Jubilee.

Middleton did have a street party - I think for the Golden Jubilee - along the Street by the bus shelter and if anyone has photos of either of these events that we could borrow and /or take a copy of to display at the picnic that would be lovely. (Contact any of the MCC members on the fete poster if you have any.)

# Middleton Village Fete

**Saturday 27th August**

**2pm**

**Recreation Ground**

An Assortment of Stalls and Games from Our Community.  
After the great success of last year, we hope this year will be even better!

## Can You Help?

**We are asking for anyone who can help to let the  
Community Council know – contacts:**

Barbara - [barbara.barker.t21@btinternet.com](mailto:barbara.barker.t21@btinternet.com)

Trish - [tricia.cooke1@btopenworld.com](mailto:tricia.cooke1@btopenworld.com)

Richard - [jenricht@btinternet.com](mailto:jenricht@btinternet.com)

Rebecca - [curlyreynolds@gmail.com](mailto:curlyreynolds@gmail.com) 07777689428

**So could YOU help with the setting up on Friday or  
Saturday, help on a stall, be part of the car  
park/marshalling team or help with the clearing up  
afterwards?**

**P.S. We already know we are a few people short this year for various reasons –  
weddings, family occasions, medical reasons etc and without extra volunteers  
we may be a few stalls shorter than usual.**

# HOLY TRINITY – MIDDLETON CUM FORDLEY



## Services during July

Sunday 10 July                      Morning Praise 11am

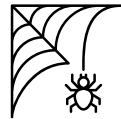
Sunday 24 July                      Holy Communion 11am

*There will be two Benefice services this month*

*Benefice family@church takes place at Sibton Abbey  
Sunday 17 July at 10.00am*

*Benefice 'Wildflower Festival' Prayer and Praise takes place at Westleton Church, Sunday 31 July  
at 6.30pm*

*Please come along*



**Holy Dusters** 😊

New dusters always welcome, of all faiths and none...

6 July:    Rob and Paul

20 July:    Amanda and Paul



## Middleton Open Gardens 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> June

Taking over the co-ordination of the Middleton open gardens event was a daunting task; following in the footsteps of Irene Ralph who had so skilfully managed the process in previous years was going to be a tough challenge. However, I should not have worried because the people who assisted me in producing this very special weekend, were generous with their time, knowledgeable and reassuringly efficient. Irene remained at the helm to guide me, and everyone put all their efforts into making it a success. I thank them all for their support and kindness.

This year the dates fell on the weekend of the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> June when the country was celebrating the Queen's platinum jubilee.

There were 14 open gardens that were lovingly presented, displaying the variety of styles that had been brought into existence by the many different passions of our villagers. On show this year, there was a wild meadow garden, garden restoration projects, a colourful courtyard, and every variation between formal and informal, with so many flowers in full bloom, and even some amazing shepherds huts.





This, together with some delicious cakes from the Pavilion, and cream teas from the Village Hall, added to the experience and enjoyment of a good day out.

With the smaller numbers of people attending, it was great to see so many conversations going on, as many were quizzed on the finer details of their gardens. Several visitors heard about the weekend through the National Garden Scheme and came from across East Anglia to visit our village, and they told us they were amazed at what they found.

The children from Middleton Primary school used their artistic creativity to produce pictures and crowns, in keeping with the jubilee celebrations, which were displayed in the church. Many folk popped into the Church to see the beautifully painted crowns and celebratory Jubilee paintings sitting

alongside the floral arrangements by the Middleton flower ladies.



Although the weather was not as kind to us as last year, we still raised nearly £3,000. This year's selected charity was the Blossom appeal, who wish to build a breast care centre at Ipswich Hospital to ensure that breast care patients receive the best possible care; so far, they have raised £5.7 million of the £6.2 million required to build the centre. Originally, 15% of the money raised was to go towards the final £500,000 they need to make this dream a reality; however, an additional 5% was added to this amount to say 'thank you' to Leroy, at the Bell, who has been both helpful and supportive to the village and the Open Gardens event over recent years; this charity is one that is close to his heart.

The Open Gardens weekend is the main fund raiser for Holy Trinity Church and the PCC would like to thank you all, once again, for your open-hearted generosity in helping us to care for this beautiful building.

The success of this event is due to the hard efforts and commitment of the gardeners and the villagers, both those up front and those behind the scenes; you are greatly appreciated, and we cannot thank you enough. This year we pay special tribute to Barbara and Rennie who have worked tirelessly, in recent years, organising the Pavilion refreshments. They have decided to step back from the responsibility, and we thank them enormously for their contribution. 'Gardeners do not grow flowers, they create the environment in which flowers grow', I suspect it is true also of our village community.

Thank you to all those who helped to create the event, but also, to those who attend and make it flourish.  
Christine Burgess – Middleton's Open Gardens co-ordinator  
Financial details - David Burgess- Church treasurer



A VERY big thank you from the Pavilion and Village Hall staff (of which the photo only shows a few of the band of volunteers) for ALL the amazing cakes that were made for us. A particular thank you to Sandra who made all the scones and most of the cheese scones as well as cakes. You're a star!!

Also a big thank you to the servers and washer-uppers. As always it's a big team effort, and we mustn't forget Liz who must've said the same instructions a couple of hundred times when selling brochures!

### Thought for the month

'Do not grow old, no matter how long you live. Never cease to stand like curious children before the Great Mystery to which you were born.' Albert Einstein

## WI News

At our June meeting we welcomed David Burgess to give us his talk on " Nurses and Nursing". His interest in people led him to his nursing career. At age 19 he started his training at Whipps Cross Hospital in mental health nursing. There he learned to try to live in other peoples' stories, in order to change those stories for the better. The way to help his patients was to learn compassion, to spend time finding out how and where they felt safe and what were their dreams and hopes. Then using this knowledge help them gradually to take small steps to recovery. He also learned how to be cool under stress. While training he requested to have a summer in A+E to encounter the physical side of health which eventually led to nursing patients with blood cancers and tumours: Haematology and Oncology. Again he would take time to show interest and really get to know the person he was nursing. He told us about one of his patients who had the dream to spend time in the "Blue Parrott Cafe" (a place in his imagination). So David took time to transform the man's hospital room into a version of this dream and he was happy. While David was doing this, his nursing colleagues were happy to take over the more boring duties. He admits he was lucky to have such amenable workmates but laughter and craziness helped them all to cope with such serious illness. David believes nurses work hard, have fun, and can work even harder if they have support from friends and family. Nursing is helping patients go on a journey with their hopes and dreams. David's career will now be in teaching where he can share his knowledge and experience of nursing. We thanked David for giving us a very interesting insight into his profession. Our next meeting will be our Garden Party on July 20th at 4pm. Festivities will take place at the Playing Field Pavilion.

LV

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**Victoria Hayden - Body Control Pilates Teacher** [www.victoriahaydenpilates.co.uk](http://www.victoriahaydenpilates.co.uk)

The first taster session advertised last month was over-subscribed so Victoria is running a **second beginners taster session on Monday 18th July at 4pm at Middleton Village Hall.**

If enough interest the new beginners class will be starting in September on Fridays at 10.45 am at MiddletonVillage Hall. Please contact me to register interest.

Pilates is very inclusive of everyone with various levels to suit all needs.

**\* IMPROVED POSTURE**

**\* RELIEF FROM ACHES AND PAINS**

**\* STRONGER, LEANER MUSCLES**

**\* STRONGER BONES**

**\*IMPROVED FLEXIBILITY & MOBILITY**

**\* IMPROVED BALANCE**

**\* IMPROVED CIRCULATION**

**AND SO MUCH MORE!**

**Tel : 01728 648171 / 07713277176**

## **'MIDDLETON FOLK IN THE GARDEN' at Manor House - Sunday 24th July, 2pm onwards**



We hope you might be able to join us on **Sunday 24th July** - we plan to open our garden at **2pm** and encourage you to BYO - i.e. bring your own: chairs/picnic blanket together with your choice of picnic snacks and drink, ready to listen to local (Benhall) duo [Honey and the Bear's Jon and Lucy](#) (joined by [Toby Shaer](#) on fiddle/flute) for a couple of hours of live music from approx 3pm.

(If you're not into folk music but would still like to join us for your outdoor picnic, please do come along and set yourselves up on the higher grass circle within the meadow area where you will be able to enjoy your picnic and chat freely without disturbing those wanting to listen to the music and singing)

***This will be a very British garden party - so please dress appropriately for the weather!***

*(However - if there are biblical rains on the day then we will be forced to rearrange)*

As some of you know, we sadly lost Mandy's younger brother Darren (at just 54 years old) to bowel cancer at the end of last year. We envisage this afternoon to be a happy 'Celebration of Life' and at the same time hope to raise some much-needed funds to contribute to the charity Bowel Cancer UK.

The garden performance is free to come to - we just ask if you could consider making a donation - any sum no matter how small - to the Bowel Cancer UK Charity. We can collect 'real money' here on the day - or more preferable - you can make a payment direct to our JustGiving page here: [www.justgiving.com/MandyBeaumontforDarren](http://www.justgiving.com/MandyBeaumontforDarren)

Let us know if you think you'll be able to join us - [mobilemandy@me.com](mailto:mobilemandy@me.com)  
Mandy & Steve

**Coastal Accessible Transport Service** - the Connected Communities bus service available to rural parishes for walking, shopping and visiting. Walks can be non-circular and well-behaved dogs are welcome on board for no charge. The bus is demand led and can be booked online or by telephone. Charges are in line with public bus services but, unfortunately, bus passes cannot be used. Discounted fares are available for four or more passengers and return services are cheaper. The buses are wheelchair friendly and they help people to stay independent. An added benefit is they are staffed by regular drivers who get to know their passengers which provides an extra check on their welfare. The bus service covers an area from Orford to Walberswick. CATS also offer a door-to-door service whereby volunteers use their own cars to provide transport, mainly to medical appointments. More volunteers are needed to provide this valuable community service. Drivers are reimbursed 45p per mile and can choose where and how often they volunteer. CATS is funded by Suffolk County Council and donations from Town and Parish Councils. Their contract expires at the end of March 2023 and they hope the County Council will continue to support the service and enable them to expand by providing more buses.





# Middleton News



Email: [officemiddleton@yoxvalley.org](mailto:officemiddleton@yoxvalley.org)

Rectory Road

Middleton

IP17 3NW

Tel: 01728 648251

[www.middletonprimaryschool.org.uk](http://www.middletonprimaryschool.org.uk)

## Spruce Class

Children in Spruce class have been making the most of their stylish new leavers' hoodies and have been so keen to show them off that they couldn't even be persuaded to remove them when we had bright sunshine and temperatures in excess of 23 degrees! Thank you so much to Stocks Fun Fair for their generous contribution and to the Friends for organising sizing and distribution.



In Maths, Year 1 children in **Ash Class** have been learning fractions. Here they are identifying a whole, a half and a quarter while making playdough biscuits.



As part of their music, **Spruce** also enjoyed a percussion workshop with our lovely volunteer, Irene. Moreover, they have been learning tunes with the notes; B A G and D on their funky purple descant recorders!



## A Crowning Success

Maple have been working hard over the past 3 weeks to plan and create crowns out of clay to celebrate Queen Elizabeth's Platinum jubilee. We enjoyed working with the clay and learning how to use it effectively. You can see the stages as we moved from a wire frame to the final painted and embellished crowns.



**SING, SAY or PLAY**

**In other words - SQUIT NIGHT!!**

**Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> July**

**Middleton Bell**



**From 8pm**



For those of you that don't know, or are new to the village or staying here on holiday this is a free to all live music session in the pub. Some might call it 'open mike' but here it's called 'squit' - a phrase coined many years ago and it refers to the random and very varied nature of the performances. No two 'squit nights' are ever the same.

Anyone can come along and join us – either as a musician or singer or story teller or ... ?

Or just come along and enjoy listening.



## **FILM: YOXMAN**

**Yoxford Village Hall presents a brand new film about the creation of the Yoxman. Filmmaker, Phil Cairney followed Laurence Edwards for four years recording the highs and lows of the biggest challenge of the sculptors career!**

**Tickets are £10.00 to include wine and nibbles. followed by a Q&A with Laurence, hosted by Russell Pearce. All proceeds go toward the refurbishment of the village Hall.**

**7pm Friday  
July 29th**

**Phone 07973 863034  
to reserve a place,  
Pay on the door.**

## July Nature Notes

Summer is the time for reptiles. Reptiles are cold-blooded creatures so they hibernate through winter but come summer they warm their bodies by basking in the open, gaining body heat from the sun rather than from the food they eat. In Britain, there are six native reptile species, four of which adder, grass snake, common lizard and slow worm are all to be found in this area, with smooth snake and sand lizard restricted to southern counties.

Adders are very much a species of heathland, dunes and of other well drained soils, although they will venture into wetlands if dry ground is available nearby. They are well known for being Britain's only venomous snake, but its poison is generally of little danger to humans: an adder bite can be painful and cause inflammation, but is really only dangerous to the very young, ill or old. Adders are secretive animals and prefer to slither off into the undergrowth rather than confront and bite humans and domestic animals; most attacks happen when they are trodden on or picked up. Instead, they use their venom to immobilise and kill their prey of small mammals, nestlings and lizards. Unlike most snakes, adders do not lay eggs and instead give birth to up to 20 live young in late summer and it is this adaptation allows them to live quite far north even above the Arctic circle in Northern Europe. Often described as 'stocky' snakes, adders can grow up to 70cm. Males are typically grey with black zig-zag markings and females are light brown with dark brown zig-zags. However, colour is variable and black adders are not uncommon.



Grass snakes, Britain's largest reptiles, can grow to over a metre in length. They prefer rough land with plenty of long grass, laying their eggs in early summer, in rotting vegetation such as compost heaps. The young hatch in autumn. Grass snakes are often found beside water, and are very good swimmers. They mainly eat amphibians and can even catch small fish and although they hiss menacingly when cornered, they are neither venomous nor aggressive. The background colour of the grass snake is dark green, and its body has vertical black bars and spots running along the sides. In addition, there is a prominent yellow collar almost right around the neck,

Common lizards prefer warm sheltered habitats with nearby dry places where they can bask. They are most easily found in springtime, when emerging from hibernation. By mid-summer, lizards are very much quicker at scampering away when approached. The common lizard gives birth to live offspring and hence is sometimes known as the viviparous lizard.



Although they look very much like snakes, slow worms are in fact legless lizards. They are characterised by an almost complete absence of identifying markings on the body. Slow worms vary in colour; females tending to be brownish, while the males are greyer. They are found in a variety of habitats, including gardens, living among long dry grass and dense undergrowth, often underground, but usually with somewhere nearby where they can sun themselves. They are commonly encountered in compost heaps. Both these lizard species feed on insects and other small invertebrates.

# MIDDLETON CUM FORDLEY PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 14<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2022  
AT 7:00 PM AT THE VILLAGE HALL

## 1. Attendance and Apologies

### Attendees:

Cllr. Julian Cusack – Chair  
Cllr. Roy Dowding – Vice Chair  
Cllr. Colin Whitbread  
Cllr. Steve Thorpe  
Cllr. Chris Reynolds  
Cllr. Lesley Taylor  
Cllr. Graham Lacey  
Cllr. Lynda Whitbread

### Apologies for absence:

County Cllr. Richard Smith  
District Cllr. Tony Cooper  
District Cllr. Tom Daly

### In attendance:

Sharon Smith - Clerk/RFO  
District Cllr. Russ Rainger  
2 members of the public

## 2. Councillors' Declarations of Interest                      None.

## 3. Public Forum

a) The Council received a briefing from Tony Cole from County Broadband Provider. He said projects are underway to provide fibre optic cable to properties in many of the surrounding villages. Enough Middleton residents have expressed interest to make the project viable in the parish but around 50 households will need to formally sign up to a two year contract to enable the project to proceed to the next stage. Events will be organised in the village to invite residents to hear more about the project and to have their questions answered. The infrastructure costs will be funded by the government and the fibre optic cables will either be overhead or underground subject to the current infrastructure. County Broadband will provide a landline and broadband service but not a mobile telephone service. As it is a digital telephone line, they are looking to provide a battery back-up to enable telephone calls to be made in the event of a power cut. BT are also switching to digital lines therefore the facility to make telephone calls in an emergency will eventually be lost. The monthly charge for the service will be fixed until the service goes live in about a year's time and for the two year contract period. The costs will be £28 per month for the first six months rising to £45 per month thereafter for upload and download speeds of 300 mbps. There will be an option to reduce to 50 mbps for £28 per month after the six month trial period. The Chairman thanked Mr Cole for his briefing and a number of questions from the Council and the member of public present were answered. Mr Cole was unable to answer a question about whether trees chafing the overhead lines would affect the service and he offered to find out and report back.

b) District Cllr. Russ Rainger summarised his previously circulated monthly report. Highlights included the District Council self-reporting to the housing regulator about rent increase irregularities in Waveney, the resettlement of Ukrainian refugees, and the appointment of a new Environment and Climate Change Officer. Cllr. Rainger also reported that the Aldeburgh and Leiston ward members have pooled their budgets to create a fund to support residents with the cost of living crisis. There are no further details at present but the funds are likely to be awarded to organisations already supporting those in need of support.

Cllr. Roy Dowding, referring to an extract from a District Council cabinet meeting report shared by Cllr. Tony Cooper and Cllr. Russ Rainger, said he challenged everything in the report which extolled the benefits of the proposed Sizewell C development for education, businesses and the energy coast. Cllr. Dowding said there was not one mention of the impacts to local people in terms of the roads, the proximity of the construction site, the effects on tourism, etc. Cllr. Dowding opined that the District Council was heartless and they were only looking out for themselves and businesses but they may find that the benefits are not as good as they hoped. Cllr. Rainger responded that he had received similar feedback about the report from other parishes. He said the extract was from a larger report therefore it was not a good reflection of the wider issues. The Chairman said it was an example of the ongoing propaganda from the District Council and he would appreciate a more relevant and personal monthly report to Middleton and the matters which pertain to it.

## 4. Minutes

The Council approved as accurate the minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting and the minutes of the Annual Meeting held on 10th May 2022.

## 5. Casual Vacancy

No applications were received for the Councillor vacancy.

**ACTION:** Clerk to invite the previous unsuccessful applicant to reapply.

## 6. Councillors' Reports

a) Energy Projects – Cllr. Roy Dowding said the decision on whether to approve the Sizewell C Development Consent Order is expected on 8<sup>th</sup> July. A new minister has been appointed to oversee the decision as Rt Hon Kwasi Kwarteng MP is involved with the government's new nuclear funding model.

b) Highways– Cllr. Graham Lacey reported that the recent Highways work on the B1122 has not resolved the flooding issue on Fordley Road as the ditches remain uncleared. Cllr. Lacey said he reported the issue online to Highways but he has not received a response.

**ACTION: Council to raise issue with County Cllr. Richard Smith next month.**

c) Footpaths – Cllr. Lesley Taylor reported that the hedges have been cut by contractors near The Causeway's junction with The Street which is not permitted during the nesting season. Cllr. Steve Thorpe replied that cutting is perhaps allowed if the hedges are observed for a time for nesting birds.

**ACTION: Cllr. Steve Thorpe to draft an article for the newsletter.**

d) Village Hall – Cllr. Lynda Whitbread said the Hall Management Committee were obtaining quotes for refurbishing the interior.

e) Primary School – Cllr. Lynda Whitbread said she continues to volunteer and is hoping to be involved in the year end activities. Cllr. Chris Reynolds reported that Sports Day is scheduled for 23<sup>rd</sup> June.

**ACTION: Chairman to open gates for overflow parking.**

f) Hastoe Housing - the Clerk said she had asked the District Council how much Community Infrastructure Levy was expected from the development but she has not yet received a reply. Cllr. Steve Thorpe said he is still waiting for a reply about the hedging.

**ACTION: District Cllr. Russ Rainger to follow up CIL question.**

g) Village Greens – the Chairman reported that the volunteer, who regularly cut the Village Green grass for 35 years, is no longer able to do so. The Council agreed to write a letter of thanks and to contribute £50 towards his costs for lawnmower fuel (OSA 1906 s.10). A resident reported that the grass was overgrown so the Chairman mowed that part of the green. A long term solution is required for the Green maintenance going forward therefore it was agreed to find volunteers or obtain quotes from a contractor.

**ACTION: Chairman to ask for volunteers via the village newsletter.**

h) Church - with regard to the disabled access to the Church from the Village Green, the Chairman spoke informally to a nearby resident. The conversation was constructive and it was agreed that a solution needs to be found.

**ACTION: Chairman and Cllr. Graham Lacey to progress in conjunction with the Church. Clerk to search for funding opportunities.**

i) Middleton Moor – the Council briefly discussed the draft report from the Suffolk Wildlife Trust. The Chairman said that, in essence, the report did not suggest any significant change to current practices and that the greater crested newt population is healthy therefore the Natural England objectives are being achieved. It was agreed to form a working party comprising Cllr. Lynda Whitbread, Cllr. Colin Whitbread, Cllr. Lesley Taylor, Cllr. Steve Thorpe and the Chairman to review the detail of the report and provide feedback to the SWT. When a revised version has been received, the report will be presented at a meeting of Moor residents where their feedback will be sought.

## 7. Planning

The Council agreed to support planning application DC/22/1986/FUL – install solar panels – Brookside Lodge, Yoxford Road provided the solar panels are sited in the position shown on the plans and are not visible from the road.

**ACTION: Clerk to inform the planning authority.**

## 8. Parish Matters

a) The Chairman said that he, the Clerk and a resident met with members of the Environment Agency to discuss their routine maintenance programme in the Minsmere New Cut. The EA undertakes a weed cut between Reckford Bridge and the Minsmere Sluice to maintain the conveyance of water and to manage flood risks. This approach takes into account the number of properties at risk of flooding in Middleton and Eastbridge based on their current hydraulic modelling for the Minsmere River and its tributaries. Each autumn/winter they inspect the watercourse and this informs whether they will undertake this maintenance in any given year. The EA's permissive powers to carry out channel maintenance only applies where there is a flood risk to people and properties not gardens, outbuildings or farmland. Whilst there is flood risk to gardens and outbuildings in Middleton, there are no properties at risk of flooding and therefore this informs their decision not to conduct any channel maintenance upstream of Reckford Bridge. Whilst the EA does undertake channel maintenance works, the ultimate responsibility for maintaining a watercourse usually lies with the riparian owners, the persons who own the land on each bank. The riparian owner is also usually responsible for any fallen trees and branches in the channel. Reports of woody debris in the channel received by the EA are treated on a case by case basis and they engage directly with landowners to inform them of their rights and responsibilities and to provide appropriate

advice and guidance. Where there is a genuine flood risk to properties then fallen trees and branches are removed from the channel. In other circumstances, the EA may advise a riparian owner about the potential ecological and wildlife habitat benefits derived from leaving woody debris in the channel. The Chairman of Theberton and Eastbridge Parish Council was also present at the meeting and he asked about the EA's approach to dredging and desilting as the Sizewell Marshes often flood, as they should, but the speed of drainage into the New Cut has recently been reduced. The EA replied that in many locations, including the New Cut, dredging and desilting does not achieve a sustainable and effective reduction in flood risk and they are not funded to undertake this type of maintenance for land drainage purposes. They acknowledged that weed cutting will improve drainage rates from the marshes in the short term but dredging would not be effective.

They may undertake some dredging but only for small stretches near curves, bridges and culverts and they note that sediment usually returns within 3-6 months. Finally, the EA members advised that a different department is responsible for the overall water quality in the New Cut and they agreed to provide the Council with contact details for a further site visit to discuss the need for a holistic approach to watercourse management.

**ACTION: Clerk to arrange a further meeting.**

b) The Council discussed applying for an Outreach Post Office at the Village Hall. The Clerk explained that the facility at Yoxford does not generate any income for the Village Hall and the sub-postmaster has reported that they are very short staffed.

**ACTION: Cllr. Lynda Whitbread to feedback to the Hall Management Committee.**

c) The Council agreed to convene a separate meeting after the summer break to discuss the strategic aims for the parish.

d) The Council agreed to apply for a free hedgehog home from the Coast and Heaths AONB team for the Recreation Ground.

## 9. Finance

a) The Council noted the latest financial position.

b) The Council approved the Community Infrastructure Levy Report 2021-2022.

**ACTION: Clerk to submit to ESC and upload to website.**

c) The Council authorised the payments below, with the exception of Cllr. Colin Whitbread who did not approve payment of the lawnmower maintenance invoice as it was not pre-approved by the Council in accordance with due process.

| Details                      | Payee                             | Amount  | Power              |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------|--------------------|
| Clerk's Salary               | Sharon Smith                      | £244.80 | LGA 1972 s.112     |
| Lawnmower Maintenance        | Carl Robinson                     | £55.00  | LGA (MP) 1976 s.19 |
| Website Domain Name          | IONOS Cloud Ltd                   | £12.00  | LGA 1972 s.142     |
| Data Protection Registration | Information Commissioner's Office | £35.00  | LGA 1972 s.111     |

## 10. Correspondence

The Council reviewed the correspondence received between 5<sup>th</sup> May 2022 and 8<sup>th</sup> June 2022. It was noted that EDF were unable to attend this meeting due to a prior engagement.

**ACTION: Clerk to invite EDF to attend the next meeting.**

## 11. Next Meeting

The Council agreed the date and time of the next meeting which is scheduled for Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> July 2022 at 7:00 pm at the Village Hall.

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

1. The Clerk has not yet completed her report on health and safety matters for the pavilion.

**ACTION: To be added to next month's agenda.**

2. The Council noted the monthly play equipment safety inspection report. The Chairman summarised the four medium risk findings:

- i) Cable Way – the vertical cracks in the supporting timber posts are regularly tested to ensure the splits do not continue into the ground which would affect stability. There is no imminent risk of failure but regular monitoring is ongoing and the entire structure will eventually need replacing. This finding concurs with the annual safety inspection conducted by another inspector.
- ii) Train – loose or missing fixtures - this is an aesthetic rather than a safety issue.
- iii) Logs – the Recreation Ground Working Group will discuss whether the rotten timber logs should remain, be reduced or replaced.

- iv) Gate – the Recreation Ground Working Group will inspect for surface trip points and decide whether to replace the safety matting. Cllr. Lynda Whitbread reported that the metal bar on top of the swing is moving.

**ACTION: Chairman to ask EPS to fix during next month's inspection.**

3. The Council considered a request for adult outside gym equipment and the offer of a financial contribution from the Middleton Recreation Ground Fund Raising Committee towards the purchase. Cllr. Lynda Whitbread said she supported the request as the Council has invested heavily in the provision of play equipment for children which only represents a small proportion of residents. The Council agreed and decided to ask the Recreation Ground Working Group, which has a wider membership than the Council, for its views as to the position of the equipment and the number of pieces required.

**ACTION: Chairman to progress.**

4. The following payments were authorised:

| Details         | Payee        | Amount | Power              |
|-----------------|--------------|--------|--------------------|
| Union Jack Flag | Sharon Smith | £29.99 | LGA 1972 s.137     |
| Electricity     | British Gas  | £25.09 | LGA (MP) 1976 s.19 |
| Electricity     | British Gas  | £34.12 | LGA (MP) 1976 s.19 |

The meeting closed at 9:00 pm.

#### Parish Council Chairman's Report - June 2022

##### Village Green

Stephen Baggott has finally had to retire from his volunteer role as mower of the largest section of the Village Green. Thank you, Steve, for your work over so many years!

We are now looking for volunteers to take over this role. If you think you can help, please contact Sharon Smith.

##### Parish Council vacancies

Following a further resignation, we now have two vacancies on the Parish Council. If you would like to be considered, please contact Sharon Smith. Anyone co-opted at this stage will serve until the elections in May 2023.

##### Playing field

We are looking at options to enhance the facilities on offer at the playing field including five-a-side football and adult gym equipment. Please let us have your views on these or any other ideas.

##### Sizewell C

The decision by government on the planning application is expected on July 8th. The Parish Council remains strongly opposed to the project. But if, as expected, planning permission is given we will do our best, within our limited powers, to minimise the negative effects on the Parish generally and the residents along the B1122 and B1125, in particular.

Julian Cusack  
Chair, Middleton cum Fordley Parish Council  
June 27, 2022

A recent WI Report was based on a short talk I gave to Middleton WI on the subject of Modern Day Slavery /Trafficking.

I'm currently in the process of encouraging East Suffolk District Council to send information on this subject to all Town and Parish Councils. I've researched how County and District Councils are organised to fight this awful crime that is as prevalent in rural areas as it is in urban areas. Also how our Police are set up to deal with it. The specialist team have offered to give us a talk on the subject as has our Community Police Officer.

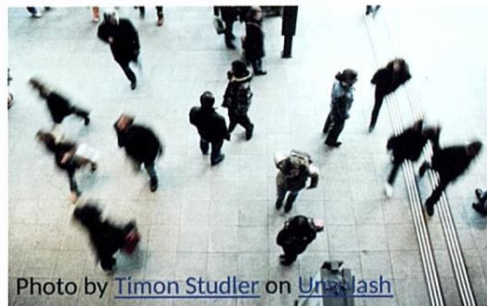
I'm a member of Soroptimist International (our local Club is Ipswich & District) and they in conjunction with CrimeStoppers have recently produced this leaflet.

Many thanks  
Pat Dowding

**Soroptimist International  
Great Britain and Ireland**

sigbi.org/ukpac

@UKPACc



### HUMAN TRAFFICKING HAPPENS EVERYWHERE

Human trafficking and modern slavery are hidden crimes affecting men, women and children every day in the UK. It is the movement of people by deception or coercion for the purpose of exploitation. It includes sex trafficking, forced labour, forced criminality, domestic servitude and organ harvesting.

Modern slavery is an international crime that affects an estimated 29.8 million slaves around the world, with an estimated 13,000 people held in slavery in the UK today. In 2015 there were 3,266 potential victims identified and referred to the National Crime Agency. (<https://crimestoppers-uk.org>) Modern slavery is happening in every corner of the world and can affect any person, regardless of age, socio-economic background or location. ([Stophetraffik.org](http://Stophetraffik.org))

| <b>SPOT THE SIGNS - Is someone:</b>       | <b>Do they appear to:</b>                                     |
|-------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|
| Working against their will?               | Have little or no time off?                                   |
| Having their movements controlled?        | Live in overcrowded accommodation?                            |
| Subject to violence or threats?           | Have bruises or unexplained injuries?                         |
| Distrustful of authorities?               | Be subject to security at their work/ accommodation premises? |
| Unable to communicate freely with others? | Have no access to their earnings?                             |
| Unsure of where they are?                 | Work excessive hours?                                         |
| Not integrated with local authorities?    |                                                               |

These are just some of the signs of trafficking or enslavement.

If someone is in immediate danger **dial 999**

If you need help or advice call the **Modern Slavery Helpline 0800 0121 700**  
The helpline is operated by Unseen, open 24/7 and entirely confidential.

Specially trained advisors can take details of your concerns and pass them on to the most appropriate agency to ensure victims are safeguarded and supported as quickly as possible. You can also report suspicions of trafficking by calling 101 OR visit your local police station OR ring **0800 555 111**





17<sup>th</sup> June 2022

**CITIZENS ADVICE EAST SUFFOLK IS FORMED AND NEW CHIEF OFFICER APPOINTED FOLLOWING A MERGER OF CITIZENS ADVICE LEISTON, SAXMUNDHAM & DISTRICT, CITIZENS ADVICE FELIXSTOWE & DISTRICT AND CITIZENS ADVICE NORTH EAST SUFFOLK**

Citizens Advice East Suffolk was launched on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2022, following the merger of Citizens Advice Leiston, Saxmundham & District, Citizens Advice Felixstowe & District and Citizens Advice Northeast Suffolk. The discussions about the merger had been ongoing over the past couple of years to review efficiencies of the organisation and the services available to the public. The main benefit of the merger is the ability of Citizens Advice East Suffolk to extend its services and provide a more comprehensive and accessible service.

Chiara Saunders' appointment as Chief Officer of the new organisation was confirmed this week. Chiara joined Citizens Advice as a volunteer advisor prior to being appointed Chief Officer of Citizens Advice Leiston & Saxmundham on 1<sup>st</sup> March 2019. Before that, Chiara had worked in the commercial and investment banking sector, following which she pursued a career in education as a teacher and school librarian.

Chiara said:

*"I look forward to the challenge of developing and future proofing Citizens Advice East Suffolk. After the difficulties of covid and lockdown, the rising cost of living is challenging our community further and the services we provide are ever more important and remain in high demand. I relish the opportunity of working with our staff and volunteers to continue to provide the residents of East Suffolk with a level of advice and support that is both accessible and excellent."*

--- 000 ---

All enquiries to contact: Alison Moor on 07973 207138/ali@alisonmoor.com

Letter to the editor

Hello Barbara,

I'm trying to track down Robin Hare to send him some information about his family tree, but can't find either his postal or email address. His parents, Margot and Maurice Hare, used to live at Fordley Hall, and I think Robin used to live quite close by.

I wonder if you could please give a mention to my quest in your magazine? Happy to publish my email address for anyone who knows him to pass it on.

Best wishes,

Maggie

[maggiestrutt@btinternet.com](mailto:maggiestrutt@btinternet.com)

Maggie Strutt  
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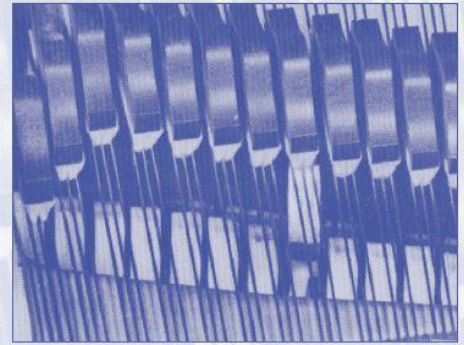
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## Diary Dates 2022

### July

|                            |                                                                      |
|----------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Saturday 2 <sup>nd</sup>   | Mid-summer boules tournament - Playing Field. <b>10 am</b>           |
| Saturday 2 <sup>nd</sup>   | Julian & Kayleigh's wedding - evening                                |
| Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup>   | Live music "SQUIT NIGHT" at the Bell from <b>8pm</b>                 |
| Sunday 10 <sup>th</sup>    | Morning Praise - Holy Trinity <b>11am</b>                            |
| Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup>   | Parish council meeting, Village Hall <b>7pm</b>                      |
| Saturday 16 <sup>th</sup>  | Middleton-cum-Fordley Jubilee Picnic - Playing Field <b>12 - 3pm</b> |
| Sunday 17 <sup>th</sup>    | Paget House NGS open garden <b>11-5pm</b>                            |
| Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> | W.I. Garden Party - Recreation Ground                                |
| Sunday 24 <sup>th</sup>    | Holy Communion , Holy Trinity <b>11am</b>                            |
| Sunday 24 <sup>th</sup>    | 'Folk in the Garden' , Manor house from <b>2pm</b>                   |

### August

|                           |                                                     |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|
| Saturday 27 <sup>th</sup> | Annual Village Fete - Playing Field from <b>2pm</b> |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|

### September

|                            |                                                                              |
|----------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Tuesday 13 <sup>th</sup>   | Parish council meeting, Village Hall <b>7pm</b>                              |
| Wednesday 21 <sup>st</sup> | W.I. Village Hall- The Thatcher and his Art ~ Dominic Meek (Master Thatcher) |

### October

|                            |                                                      |
|----------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|
| Saturday 8 <sup>th</sup>   | Autumn Fair                                          |
| Tuesday 11 <sup>th</sup>   | Parish council meeting, Village Hall <b>7pm</b>      |
| Wednesday 19 <sup>th</sup> | W.I. Village Hall - Adnams ~ Andy Wood <b>7.15pm</b> |

### November

|                            |                                                                                       |
|----------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Monday 8 <sup>th</sup>     | Parish council meeting, Village Hall <b>7pm</b>                                       |
| Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup> | W.I. Village Hall - Her Infinite Variety ~ Simon Bridge (Shakespeare's Globe Theatre) |

### December

|                            |                                                 |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|
| Saturday 3 <sup>rd</sup>   | Santa Boules - Playing Field <b>10 am</b>       |
| Saturday 10 <sup>th</sup>  | MCC Christmas Event - tbc                       |
| Tuesday 13 <sup>th</sup>   | Parish council meeting, Village Hall <b>7pm</b> |
| Wednesday 21 <sup>st</sup> | W.I. Village Hall - End of Year Celebration     |

To hire the Village Hall contact Richard Turner [jenricht@btinternet.com](mailto:jenricht@btinternet.com)  
To hire the pavilion on the playing field contact [julian.cusack@btinternet.com](mailto:julian.cusack@btinternet.com)