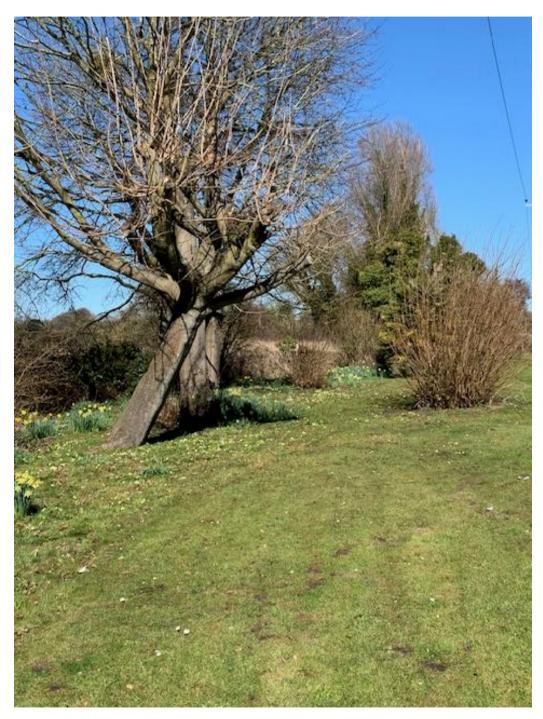
MIDDLETON -CUM - FORDLEY



NEWSLETTER

Editorial

Well the first quarter of 2025 has passed, the clocks will change this weekend as we head towards warmer weather and hopefully not too many April showers (though probably gardeners will disagree and need the rain, particularly if planning to do Open Gardens this year!) I took the front cover photo with my phone this morning after boules practice to highlight the beautiful warm spring day with an array of daffodils and primroses.

Fingers crossed for a dry day on the May 5th Bank Holiday for the MCC Victory Street Party – see the advert for details.

Next month we have our second guest editor as I will be away again and Lynda Whitbread has very kindly agreed to take it on, with Renny once again distributing to deliverers. Thank you both for holding the fort! If you have the digital version it will most likely be sent from my iCloud email as my BT one doesn't like sending out from Australia!

Contributions for the next edition by email to Lynda on <u>thewhitbreads@gmx.co.uk</u> by Tuesday 22nd April

Spare paper copies will be in the church porch as usual. Also to be found on the Parish website: <u>www.middletoncumfordley.org.uk</u> Donations may be made to: HSBC Middleton Newsletter sort code 40-28-33 account number 61054236

MIDDLETON ARCHIVES OPEN DAY 5th April

The village archives will be on display in the Village Hall on Saturday 5th April between 10am and 3pm.

Free entry, tea and coffee available.

Open to all – even if you've been before there's bound to be something you didn't see last time!

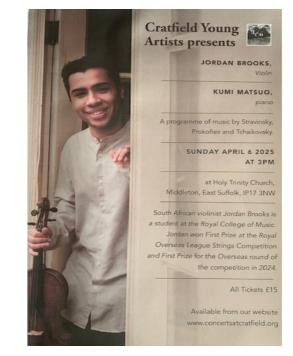
LAST CHANCE TO BUY TICKETS FOR APRIL 6th

The upcoming Young Artists concert at Middleton church on April 6 is almost sold out - so now is the time to buy your tickets.

Jordan Brooks, a brilliant young violinist will be giving an hour long concert on Sunday April 6 at 3pm; he will be accompanied by Kumi Matsuo, a pianist with an international reputation.

Jordan won the strings competition at the Royal Overseas League last year and this is a concert not to be missed.

Tickets can be purchased through the Concerts at Cratfield website: concertsatcratfield.org. For more information please call Graham on 07809 710195 or Jonathan on 07860 361746









Middleton Arts and Crafts Exhibition Held on the 8th March at the Village Hall.





Huge thanks go to all those who provided cakes, pastries, bacon rolls and hot drinks and washed up! They were busy all day!





The exhibition was a celebration of the talents and skills we have not only in Middleton but in other surrounding villages and towns. <u>20</u> exhibitors in total made the exhibition a truly fascinating and diversified experience. It was such a celebration!

So many people came and gave so generously to our donation boxes, heartfelt thanks go to you all. We have enough money to ensure the Thursday Morning Coffee Group can meet socially for as long as it is required by young and old alike. Contact Lynda on 01728 668977 if you know of someone who might like to come along to the Village Hall on a Thursday morning at 10.45 am.

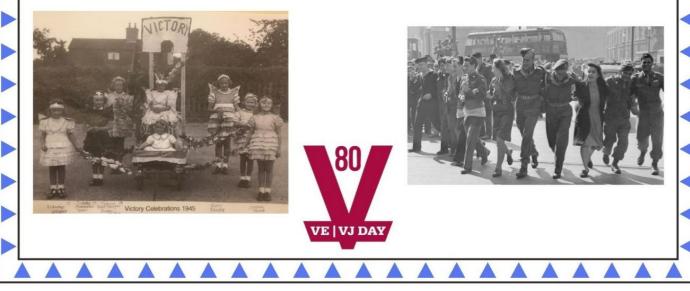
My thanks to everyone who gave their time and support so generously, making the day such a success. Lynda



Monday 5th May 12:30 - 3:00 In front of The Bell

Bring your own picnic lunch

Enjoy an afternoon of 1940s music and frivolities with friends





Why not join in the Street Party celebrations and commemorations with some wartime recipes

VICTORY OR PARTY CAKE

Is recipe makes quite a large cake: B ozs. margarine S ozs. sugar lb. mixed currants and sultanas b. raisins (or chopped prunes or dates) i teaspoonful blearbonate of soda dissolved in 1 teasponful almond essence, if desired This recipe makes quite a large cake;

t teaspoonful almond essence, if desired Put the margenine into a mixing basin and beat the with each with the mixing is soft and creamy. Then add the sugar and beat the two foresons and a little four almini all the sugar and beat the full of the reconstitu-and a little four almini all the ess and a mixing and a little of the mixing and beated into the mixing. Then sends of all the all the noil. Can be beated into the full. Mix together, mixing the into all the sine admond essent and the sold dissolved in the mix. Turn for all the sine admond ess meased and lined with greased paper. Bake for 1 hour send end meased (Regulo Mark 4), then turn the next over slow (regulo mark and bake for a further 24 hours. Ice the cake next day, when it is all here.

 1 h. self-raising flour
 2 tablespoonsful jam

 2-3 ozs. dripping, cooking fat or matgarine
 2 reconstituted dried eggs

 2 ozs. chopped prunes, raisins or sultanas
 1 teaspoonful sait

 See the four and sait into a basin, and rub in the fat. Add the full. Mix the jam with the reconstituted eggs, add to the four, and mix to a stift dough (no additional water should be needed). Place in rough heaps on a greased baking sheet, and bake for 15 minutes in a moderately hot oven (Regulo Mark 6). Makes 9 large or 18 small cakes.

 Ho. self-raising flour

 1 lo. self-raising flour

 2 tablespoonstul sugar

 2 tablespoonstul sugar

 Steve the flour and self that a tablespoonstul marmalade

 1 tablespoonstul sugar

 Steve the flour and self that a tablespoonstul marmalade

 1 min of the floar and self that a tablespoon floar and self that a tablespoon floar and self that a soft, pilat milk

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e do ta' minutes in a hot oven (Regulo Mark 7). Makes 17-18 bank e dot a minutes in a hot oven (Regulo Mark 7). Makes 17-18 bank e dot makes 18-18 b

FLAP-JACKS

 4 ozs. rolled oats
 2 ozs. margarine

 1 smail tablespoonful self-raising flour
 2 ozs. margarine

 1 good tablespoonful syrup
 Few drops almond essence

 1 good tablespoonful syrup
 1 tablespoonful sugar

 Melt margarine, syrup and sugar, and add the almond essence. Mix

 the flour and oats together, add the melted margarine, etc., and beak

 well. Put in a shallow greased tin, and bake in a fairly slow over

 (Reguio Mark 3) for 35 minutes. When done, cool for a few minutes

 turn out, and cut into fingers.

GINGER BISCUITS

GINGER BISCUITS 8 ozs. self-raising flour 1 tablespoonful dried egg 1 full tablespoonful sugar 1 full tablespoonful ground ginger treacte or syrup Melt the treacle, sugar and margarine and cool slightly. Sift the flour, dried egg, ground ginger and salt into a basin. Pour over the meited treacle, etc., and mix to a stiff dough. Roll out, cut into rounds, and bake in a moderately hot oven (Regulo Mark 5) for 10 minutes.

ANDWICH SPREADS OR FILLINGS (SAVOURY) **ICH SPREADS OR FILLINGS (SAVOURY) SAVOURY MEAT PASTE SPREAD** tespoonti shad dressing or tomato sauce retspoonti chopped pickles, watercress, chopped chives or grated carrot the meat paste into a bowl and mix with the other ingredients.

HERRING OR PILCHARD SPREAD In herrings or pilchards 1 oz. meited margarine istopoonful anchovy essence Salt and peoper herrings and remove the large bones. Put into a bowi, add ther ingredients and beat with a wooden spoon to a smooth

CHEESE AND HORSERADISH SPREAD 2 cos. state cheese 1 cos. margarine 2 cos. state cheese 1 cos. margarine 2 cos. state cheese 1 cos. margarine 2 cos. margarine 1 cos. m

MOCK BANANA SPREAD 11 lbs. parsnips 3 pints water

i teaspoonful banana

Scrub and peet the paranips and cut into a saucepan with a sau not. "E: This filling is very good for tarts and flans and is delicit sandwiches or as a spread. It will not keep like a prese should be made when parsnips are in season and used as re-should be as re-should be ma

APRICOT OR PEACH SPREAD

VE | VJ DAY



MIDDLETON OPEN GARDENS 7th and 8th June 2025 (11 am - 5pm)

Looking forward to welcoming new and returning visitors to our annual open gardens in Middleton. This year we have several new gardens, some favourites returning, as well as the beautiful, regular gardens to see.

There will be an arts/craft/vintage and plants/flower stall at the Village Hall and family wildlife activities (not in the Village Hall!). Serving refreshments at the pavilion all day.

Fundraising for Holy Trinity Church, Middleton, also supporting Middleton Thursday group and the NSPCC phone line (East Suffolk)





Calling all village artists, craftspeople, collectors Middleton Open Gardens 7th and 8th June Following the successful arts event in the village hall

last year, we are once again delighted to offer an opportunity for visitors to the Open gardens to view/purchase art, crafts, ceramics, vintage collections.

If you are an artist/craftsperson and live in, or near, Middleton and would like to take part please email, text, or call me.

Christine Burgess 07826 840478 or christineburgess29@gmail.com



MIDDLETON COMMUNITY COUNCIL Annual General Meeting

will be held on Monday 12th May 2025 at 7pm in the Village Hall

Everyone is welcome

MIDDLETON VILLAGE HALL Annual General Meeting

will be held on Monday 19th May 2025 at 7pm in the Village Hall

Everyone is welcome



HOLY TRINITY – MIDDLETON CUM FORDLEY Church Services during April

We have enjoyed a gentle start to the year here at Holy Trinity beginning with Poetry and Pastries in January which, as ever, the poetry inviting honesty and vulnerability and the kind company offering a safe harbour, felt spirit-filled and God held. This was followed by our turn to host the Benefice Service at the beginning of February which we did with pleasure. March saw our Spring Saturday Pop-up Brunch which, while not a service, nevertheless - as we gather around a table to eat, to drink and to enjoy one another's company - feels, I suggest, like church should. Our grateful thanks to everyone who came along and ... we will always make room for more! As I write this, we are anticipating the Mothering Sunday Benefice Service on 30th March in which we have been invited to bring something of the flavour of 'Poetry and Pastries' to our wider community...

Throughout Lent all eight churches are coming together for Benefice Services (see The Fisherman for further details). Rev Tim suggested that we might consider car sharing for these, do please bear this in mind.

Sunday 6 April	10.30 Benefice Holy Communion	St James Dunwich
Sunday 13 April	10.30 Benefice Holy Communion	St Peter's Theberton
Wednesday 16 April	10am-3.30pm Musical Meditation for Lent (see below for details)	Holy Trinity, Middleton
Maundy Thursday 17 April	6.30pm Washing of Feet	All Saint's Darsham
Good Friday 18 April	2pm Stations of the Cross	St Peter's Yoxford
Easter Day 20 th April	6am Sunrise Service	St James Dunwich
	11am Holy Communion	Holy Trinity Middleton

A Musical Meditation for Lent 'Through Darkness into Light'

> Holy Trinity, Middleton Thursday 17 April 10am-3.30pm

Please join us in our beautiful church for this experimental day retreat as we listen in quiet contemplation to a carefully curated playlist of sacred music designed to take us on a transformative journey through darkness into light.

The music will run continuously from shortly after 10am until its completion at approximately 3.30pm

You are welcome to come for the whole day or simply to drop in and out as you are able

Coffee and tea will be available throughout but, if you plan to come for the duration, maybe bring some lunch! Please note this is not a live performance With thanks to Ivor Williams and Mendel Kaelem

For further information contact Amanda Taylor 07990 602563

Holy Trinity PCC were so very sorry to hear that Jack Stephenson passed away suddenly on Sunday 16th March. Our thoughts and condolences are with Christine and the family.

Rita Pateman



🏁 Holy Dusters 👼

New dusters always welcome, of all faiths and none

9 April - Amanda and Paul 14 May - Mark and Liz 23 April - Nicola and Margaret

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

The Holy Trinity Church, Middleton APCM will be held on Wednesday 30 April 2025 at 2pm in the church. Everyone is welcome.

Thought for the Month

'Lent is a kind of fertilisation of the spirit. It is the time when we have to find the space to let it grow. Its desert must bloom. I find that simplicity, not self-denial, is the better aid for this. It is what the Quakers tell us.'

Ronald Blythe in *Next to Nature*



WI News

Instead of an evening meeting in February it was decided to get together during the day. At the end of the month, we treated ourselves to lunch at The Wentworth Hotel in Aldeburgh. The weather outside was wet, windy and wintry, but inside the hotel's conservatory we were warm and well looked after as we enjoyed a 3 course meal and lovely company.

In March it was back to evening meetings. At this meeting we had to pay our annual membership subscriptions. After we conducted that necessary business and some other, we relaxed and socialised. The Committee provided a tasty supper of jacket potatoes served with various fillings: cheese, chilli con carne, tuna mayo, coleslaw. A cup of tea served by Lucy and Liz ended the evening. Lynda had also thanked all the members who, with others in the village, had helped to make the Middleton Art and Craft Exhibition a success. Well done!

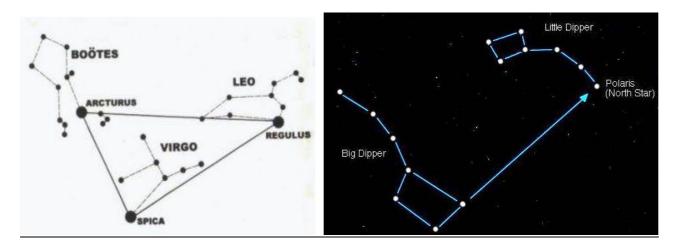
Our next meeting will be April 16th at 7:15pm. Middleton's own Mark Mitchels will give us a talk on "The Suffolk Coastline". All are welcome to join us at this meeting.

Middleton Dark Skies

April Highlights

Planets on view. Venus has disappeared from the evening sky and will now be visible low in the early morning dawn, rising around 5 AM. It will be at its brightest on the 22nd. On the 24th and 25th, it will have the crescent Moon for company. Venus is also known as the Morning Star when seen in the East. Jupiter is still prominent and sitting between the horns of Taurus, setting a little after midnight. There will be two opportunities this month to see the crescent Moon sitting next to Jupiter, on the 2nd and 30th. Mars is still close by the constellation of Gemini, forming a shallow triangle with Geminis two principal stars, Castor and Pollux. On the 10th, Mars, Castor and Pollux, will be in straight line, before Mars finally leaves the vicinity of Gemini to move into the constellation of Cancer.

<u>Constellations</u> The southern night sky is dominated by **Leo** (the Lion), with **Virgo** (the Virgin) slightly further to the East. The two brightest stars of these constellations are Regulus and Spica respectfully, and with Arcturus, in the constellation of Boötes, they form a bright triangle of stars out towards to South. In the Northern sky, **Cygnus** (the Swan or Northern Cross). Is now above the NE horizon and will continue to rise until it is directly overhead during the summer. **Ursa Major** (the Great Bear, incorporating the Big Dipper) is practically overhead this month, with **Ursa Minor** (the Little Bear/Little Dipper) below and to the North of Ursa Major.



Triangle of bright stars looking South.

Locating Ursa Minor/Little Dipper.

<u>The Moon.</u> The Moon this month is known by several names, all linked to the spring in the Northern Hemisphere, such as the Sprouting Grass Moon, Egg or Fish Moon. Full Moon this month will occur on the 13th.Watch out on the 5th for the Moon sitting just above Mars and to the left of the stars Castor and Pollux in the constellation of Gemini.

Easter Sunday. The date for Easter Sunday is determined by the first Full Moon after the Spring Equinox on 21st March, with the first Sunday after the Full Moon becoming Easter Sunday. Accordingly, the earliest Easter Sunday can be is the 22nd March, assuming that a Full Moon occurs on that day, and that the 22nd is a Sunday. The latest that Easter Sunday can be is the 25th April, when the first Full Moon after the Spring Equinox occurs on the 18th April.....simples!

Meteors The Lyrids meteor shower will be visible on the night of the 22nd, and with the Moon not rising much before dawn, it should be a good year for observing. The nearer to midnight you can get the better chance you have of seeing the meteors, as the radiant of the shower rises in the NE with the constellation of Lyra (the Harp), around 11.00 PM. Always a good chance of seeing one from 10.00 PM onwards though. The rate is likely to be 10-15 per hour, but this would be in all directions from the radiant, so if you are watching before midnight this is more likely to be between 5 and 7 per hour. These are fast and bright meteors, and will occasionally leave a trail behind them.

<u>Artificial Satellites</u>. Plenty of these to see, and with Space X ramping up the launches this year, there will be even more up there. Some satellites move in small groups or in a line, so always fun to watch out for these. It's also worth checking out on line when the Space Station will be overhead.

Brian Near

April Nature Notes

The severe decline in the numbers of great crested newts in Britain and across Europe has resulted in them receiving highest level of species protection. These laws provide strict protection of the species and its habitat; consequently the presence of great crested newts has become rather synonymous with the slowing and prevention of new developments. This often surprises people from this area, where these newts are not uncommon; the distribution maps show that East Suffolk has the greatest density of great crested newt records in East Anglia and one of the highest in Britain. This abundance undoubtedly relates to historically high number of farm ponds (Suffolk, along with Cheshire, boasts the highest density of ponds in England), which enabled newts to form extensive populations across a dense network of ponds.

There are three native species of newt in Britain; the great crested newt is the largest, reaching a maximum adult length of up to 17cm, although size varies between populations. Adults are distinguished from the smaller smooth newt by the male's jagged crest that dips at the rear of the abdomen. The third British species, the palmate newt is not found in this area. The adult male smooth newt has a crest that is wavy rather than jagged, and it does not dip at the start of the top of the tail. Females lack the crest. The great crested newt is generally black, with vivid orange or yellow belly with an irregular pattern of dark black blotches, whereas the smooth newt is generally lighter in overall colouration, and the belly markings more rounded and fewer in number. The great crested newt is sometimes known as the warty newt because of its dark black-brown colour with 'warty' darker spots and bright orange-yellow belly with dark blotches.



Great crested newts need both aquatic and terrestrial habitats. Ponds are required to breed. These tend to be medium sized, sunny, with lots of aquatic vegetation; temporary ponds which dry out occasionally, being valuable, because periodic drying out reduces the abundance of newt predators such as dragonfly larvae and fish. As newts spend much of their life on dry land breeding ponds need to be surrounded by good habitat. Rough grassland, scrub, hedges and woodland appears to be the favoured foraging habitats where they feed on a range of invertebrates, such as earthworms, slugs and slow moving insects and spiders. The great crested newt is long-lived and extremely mobile and can travel up to one kilometre in search of good pond habitat. Because of this, sensitive restoration of neglected ponds can quickly result in newts moving into a previously unsuitable pond – and result in a turnaround in the fortunes of this species locally. From personal communications there is a population of great crested newts in Middleton. This seems to be centred around the alpaca field at the top of the village, while, despite suitable habitat, they do not seem to occur lower down towards the river.

Peter Vincent

Advance notice! SUNDAY 24th AUGUST

After a year's absence, it's exciting to announce the return of our 'Folk in the Garden' fundraiser for Bowel Cancer UK.

We have just finalised the lineup for this year and are delighted to confirm we have some wonderful homegrown, amazingly talented multi-instrumentalists and singer-songwriters for you. We will be treated to live performances of stories that are woven into song and full of variation; foot-tapping Celtic tunes, both modern and traditional Folk & Roots, Folk Rock and Americana - from highly emotive and dramatic full-bodied ballads bringing a tear to your eye, to rip-roaring tales of adventure on the seas! The wonderful 5-piece SilMor will set the afternoon off in great style for us, followed by a short set with the delightful duo Kyson Point and then the magnificent Honey & the Bear with Toby Shaer.

As always, you are encouraged to bring your own picnic, cushions/blankets & fold-up chairs (if you have them) to the garden - in order to fully relax and embrace the entertainment on offer! Of course, we are at the mercy of the British summer weather, so appropriate clothes & footwear are recommended.

Suggested donation is £10-15pp - but there is no obligation, please feel free to give whatever you can - all profits will go direct to the charity Bowel Cancer UK in memory of Mandy's brother Darren who, in his early 50s, tragically lost his life to bowel cancer in 2021.

If you've <u>not</u> already received details direct from Mandy, please email: mobilemandy@me.com to ensure you're on the mailing list to get full details in due course i.e. timings, what to bring, how to make a donation etc.

And finally, if you've not been able to join us before, here's some feedback from the last garden concert to give you a feel:

What a wonderful afternoonJust lovely to sit back and listen to such talented musicians. A wonderful afternoon of music and food shared in your beautiful garden. We had a wonderful time chatting to your friends and neighbours. A lovely turn out and hopefully you raised a goodly amount for Bowel Cancer UK.

Just wanted to say what a fabulous afternoon! Your garden brings a feeling of calmness and add to that the beautiful music - well I can't put it into words butI walked home feeling 'uplifted'.

We also enjoyed the on cue appearance of the swallows formation flying team during the Swallow Song; not sure how you managed that, but well done *(*).

A super afternoon being entertained by the talented Silmor and Honey & the Bear and Toby. It was a lovely experience topped off by Pimms and cake.... a lovely intimate event.

Wow! What an amazing afternoon. Sitting in your stunning garden, the wind blowing through the trees and listening to sublime live music from superb musicians. At one point I was 'in the moment', thinking "life doesn't get better than this".

We're hoping very much that you'll be able to join us this year, Mandy & Steve (Manor House Garden - on the B1125/Leiston Road





Enjoy a Choice of Pie, Mash Vegetables & Gravy Plus a Pint of Admams Bitter , 175ml Glass of House Wine or Soft Drink





MIDDLETON BELL

Tel 648286

N.B. the kitchen is currently

closed Mon/Tue.

WE ARE NOW SERVING

FOOD

ON WEDNESDAYS AGAIN

THE BELLINN FISH & CHIP FRIDAY

GLUTEN FREE BEER BATTERED HADDOCK, KOFFMAN CHIPS, GARDEN PEAS, TARTARE SAUCE WITH A GLASS OF HOUSE WINE OR A REFRESHING PINT OF ADNAMS BEER £16

Coffee at The Bell

Every **Wednesday** from 10-12 the Bell is open for Coffee - whether Americano or Cappuccino or a cup of tea. Only £1 per cup.



Thursday Morning VH Group



Don't forget the Thursday Coffee morning . No need to book - just drop in to the Village Hall from 10.45 am for a warm welcome with a cuppa and usually cake! OPEN TO ALL ! P.S. it's not instant coffee - we do have a machine!!!

MIDDLETON BELL CRIBBAGE TEAM



We don't have the trophy yet as it's awarded on Finals Night on April 10th. We also have representatives in 2 other finals to be played that evening. Watch this space!!!



PROJECT UPDATE

APRIL 2025

The Sizewell C project continues to progress rapidly, with significant developments across multiple sites.

Archaeology and vegetation clearance works are continuing at our Sizewell Link Road sites, and main construction works will begin once our archaeological investigations have been completed. We will be starting to construct access and compound to the west of Sizewell Link Road, just off the Al2 on Town Farm Lane at the end of March.

Earthworks at Yoxford Roundabout will begin soon, though we plan for minimal disruption to the Al2. Archaeological surveys are ongoing at the Park and Ride sites, with construction set to begin in phases this summer. Additionally, work to realign BT Openreach cables continues, and at the end of March preparation for Friday Street Roundabout will include vegetation clearance under ecological supervision.

The recently launched Sizewell C Works Tracker now allows community members to receive regular updates via email, with an SMS service planned for later in the year.

Scan the QR code and visit the works tracker website.





Volunteers Needed!

Wherever you are in East Suffolk, there are people needing to get around. Volunteering helps them enormously and helps you feel better!

Get Involved Driving Local People To:

- Medical appointments
- Shopping and social visits
- Visiting day centres and village
 halls

J. Day Builders

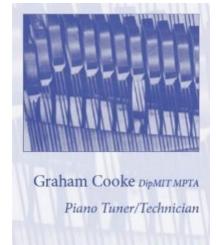
07946386665 (01728)648659



Drive your own car and get 45p a mile expenses, or use ours with full training provided

You can volunteer for a little or as much as you want! Talk to us to hear more, we would love to talk to you

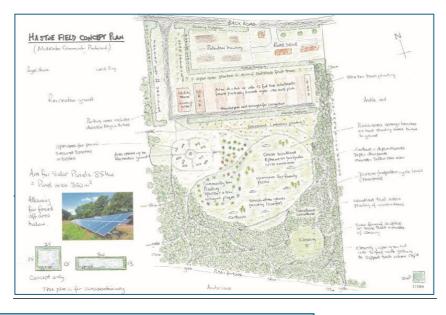
01728 830516 www.cats-paws.co.uk

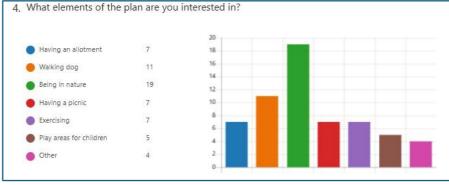


Tel: 01728 648900 Mob: 07812 249654 E-mail: grcooke@btinternet.com



Approximately **40** people attended the community meeting on 26th February 2025, **23** people completed the survey. Some highlights from that survey below:





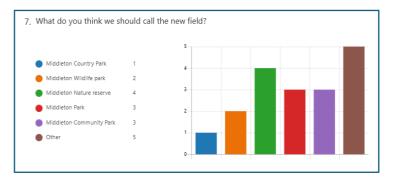
There is a good level of interest in having an allotment although we need to see how many others in the village are interested in this for it to be a viable option. 5. Are you interested in getting involved?



What concerns do people have?

1	anonymous	No
2	anonymous	The key to me is joined up thinking between this area and the rec field. Make Hastoe simpler (maybe just managed woodland with a clearing) and all functional things (allotments fitness solar panels etc) on rec field
3	anonymous	Overall scale and time scale
4	anonymous	Funding
5	anonymous	I hear people's concern that it might not actually be used - maybe less will be more $_{\!$
6	anonymous	Costs and maintenance
7	anonymous	Surprised by some local opposition- perhaps the plans could be simplified to become just a wild recreational area?
8	anonymous	I acknowledge that Roke close residents will have concerns
9	anonymous	As expressed unconvinced of need
10	anonymous	conflict with playing field. Who will use it? How will it affect Roke Drive
11	anonymous	No
12	anonymous	Yes if it all becomes manicured, too many different / competing offers. Ultimately a wood / nature with a few walks in it sounds good to me
13	anonymous	yes noise mitigation from allotments potential wind turbine noise

In addition to these concerns someone asked if there is really a need to create an additional wildlife area when there is so much around us?



Not much consensus about what it should be called! Some other suggestions:

- "Something more old or rural"
- "Not sure as yet but a bit nervous of it being too designated and tidy sounding"
- "Find the true name of the field"

[Apparently in Alan Jobson's "An Hourglass on the Run" he mentions the pit by Back Road in the Hastoe field. Apparently, it was known as Sarah Cobbler's Pit and was later used by the local authority as a tip for household rubbish. Sarah Cobbler is described as a Middleton resident but no further information on that.]

Is there anything else you would like

1	anonymous	Good Luck
2	anonymous	Will give our table notes sheet to Steve
3	anonymous	Thanks for the work you have put into this concept so far
4	anonymous	Would like to see vehicle access from one field to the other to avoid congestion in Fletchers lane on event days.
5	anonymous	It would be a shame to put the plans aside because of a vocal minority - far more people were for the idea than against, were
6	anonymous	My background is in physical & mental health and well-being
7	anonymous	We feel that the village owning this field would be preferable to leaving its ownership and use as a hostage to fortune. Village amenities are important factors attracting new residents and hopefully younger families.
8	anonymous	Portioning a secure dog park / possible wedding / events space. Compostable toilets!
9	anonymous	If this ends up simply as a wood that would be great. All in the name of positivity coining together as a village
10	anonymous	No wind turbines there

<u>Summary</u>

From the survey and the feedback on the night the majority that attended and gave feedback are in favour of turning the field into some kind of community wildlife and recreation area. There are though a number who are against what is being proposed. Even amongst those who are positive there are some concerns that would need to be addressed.

- How will this stack up financially over the long term. Therefore, it will be key to have a scheme that requires limited long-term maintenance.
- The location of the allotment is not supported by people living on Roke Drivepotentially this could be moved to a different area or if there is support and sufficient demand, allotments could be created on the existing recreation ground.
- There is nervousness about having a lot of equipment that needs to be maintained.
- Concerns about the cycle track turning into BMX type track
- View that Hastoe Field should be for wildlife and the Recreation Ground to be for amenities. So, anything like exercise equipment should be kept on Recreation Ground

Feedback from Suffolk Community Foundation (SCF) [Who manage the SZC Community Fund]

The lady that attended from SCF was impressed that we were running a community event. She said that lots of bids come to them that have no evidence of support from local people. So, we believe if we can get to the point where we have a consensus across the village about what we are applying for that the bid would be viewed favourably.

Suggested next steps.

The Parish Council is proposing that we now do two things in tandem.

Firstly, we are inviting further feedback from villagers about the proposed plans, which will now incorporate feedback from the recent meeting. We would encourage anyone with any further thoughts or feedback to share them with the Parish Clerk, Rachael Salcombe <u>parishclerkmiddleton@gmail.com</u>

Secondly, we are proposing to press ahead with an application for funding to the Sizewell C Community Fund and other potential funds, as we become aware of them. The rationale for doing this now is that we may be presented with an option to buy the field by Suffolk County Council in the near future, but don't have sufficient time to raise funds to do so. To be clear, applying for funding in and of itself will <u>not</u> commit us to buying the field. It just gives us the option to do so. Before making any final decision, a clear financial case will be presented to the village and there will be an opportunity for people to provide feedback.

If anyone might be thinking of having a 'proper' open-fire spit-roast this summer I have a moveable rotating spit assembly made by Paul Richardson which Paul and I would be happy to loan to anyone in the village. Designed for a whole pig or sheep it could also do smaller things if wanted. Not a modern gas-fired substitute- this is for a real gaucho-style barbecue and does need a good wood fire! Jack Rosenthal 648253

Email to the editor re : odd occurrence in Back Road

When we went to our top garden this morning, we found the gate to our chicken run removed & put to one side. This is the second time this week!

We still had lots of eggs in the coop so would not know if any had been taken. The gate has to be lifted to enable it to be removed so cannot be an animal. Becky

N.B. I believe this has happened a third time.

Good news from MCC

The Community Council are pleased to report that their annual young person's bursary has been awarded to Emma to go towards a new keyboard thus enabling her to continue her music tuition.

MIDDLETON CUM FORDLEY PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 12 MARCH 2025 AT 7pm AT THE VILLAGE HALL

"Please note that the Parish Council will be pleased to consider adding additional items suggested by residents to future agendas. If you would like to make such a request or contact the Parish Council on any other matter, please do so via the Parish Clerk on <u>parishclerkmiddleton@gmail.com</u>".

1 Attendance and Apologies

Attendees:

Cllr Julian Cusack (7.40pm) Cllr Charles Macdowell Cllr Giles Piercy (Chairman, in Cllr Cusack's absence) Cllr Michele Kendall Cllr Steve Thorpe Cllr Kathryn Rowe Cllr Chris Reynolds Cllr Graham Lacey Apologies: District Councillor Sarah Whitelock

In attendance: Rachael Salcombe – Parish Clerk Member of the public x 1

2 Councillors' Declarations of Interest. None.

3 Public Forum. None

4 Minutes

- a) The Council approved the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 8 January 2025, save 'minute 6 Sizewell C and other Energy Projects', bullet point 6, last sentence should read 'Middleton's recommendation to move the entire carriage way and create a footpath was rejected on the grounds of cost'.
- b) Matters arising and Action Points
- Cutting of the hedge at the burial ground has been carried out. Invoice to follow.
- The end date of the existing tenancy at Causeway Farm is confirmed as 5 April 2025.
- Cllrs Cusack and Piercy to liaise in preparation for an Emergency Planning meeting c/f
- SZC have been advised that the proposed foot path along the Moor is not required.
- Contact was made with the contractor that carried out the recent pond works. He is unable to provide a report because he does not have professional indemnity insurance.
- ESC has been advised on planning application DC/25/0106/FUL.
- Advertisement for a councillor was placed in the village newsletter.
- CIL may be used for the purchase of waste bins.
- Cats and Volunteer Community Car Drivers have been given permission to advertise on the village noticeboards.
- ESC has been advised on TPO/179/2024.
- The Bell Inn has been furnished with details of the Bike Maintenance Station. It is understood that the Parish Council will be provided with a spare set of tools and will be responsible for the maintenance thereof, ESC will install the station.
- Yoxford photographer has been advised accordingly following a request for a venue in the village and advertising
 options.

5 Hastoe Field

The success of the public meeting on 26 February was reported on. Most attendees are in favour of the Community Park, although it was acknowledged that a sizeable minority are not in favour, for a variety of reasons, including maintenance/upkeep, impact on residents of Roke Drive, use of good agricultural land and that there are enough wildlife areas.

The SZC representative was impressed by the meeting, which represented exactly the type of evidence that the community fund is looking for. Disappointingly, SCC declined the offer to attend the meeting. It was agreed that the PC should continue to apply for funding through both the Community Fund and Environmental Fund

It was agreed that the PC should continue to apply for funding through both the Community Fund and Environmental Fund but that this did not imply a firm decision to proceed with the project which would require further work and consultation with residents. It was noted that timings need to be considered and agreed in terms of receipt of funding (should we be successful) and payment to SCC.

Regarding Causeway Farm, the end tenancy date was confirmed as 5 April, and it will be after this date that the PC will be able to engage with SCC in more detail on what happens next. There remains an interest in the farm from both the Suffolk Wildlife Trust and a Care Farm.

6 Sizewell C and other Energy Projects

Cllrs Cusack and Macdowell met with SZC and Theberton PC on 4 March regarding the Sizewell Link Road. A drive around the area demonstrating works to date followed a power point presentation. It was anticipated and hoped that the meeting would provide information on anticipated works, rather than works that have already been carried out. Trees are still being felled and hedges removed. It is understood that the felling of trees and removal of hedges cannot take place after February, however SZC are able to seek permission to override the guidelines by way of a special license. Fordley Road has been closed during the day this week, for more tree felling. SZC advise that they have reduced the amount of vegetation removal from what was originally proposed.

Cllr Piercy offered to attend the next Community Forum on 27 March.

Cllr Macdowell will be attending the Lionlink exhibition at the Town Hall in Saxmundham, this Friday, 10am -4pm.

7 Emergency Planning Group. c/f

8 Councillors Reports

- a) <u>Village Hall</u>. It was reported that the rot in the hall has been taken care of and is not cause for concern. Work has been carried out to check for lead pipe leakage which resulted in no problems reported. A working group is to be created to tidy up the village hall garden.
- b) Middleton Primary School. No report
- c) Highways, footpaths and trees. No report
- d) <u>Middleton Moor</u>. It was agreed that the correspondence (an email, not a report) received from Peter Frizzell may be used when corresponding with Natural England/Suffolk Wildlife Trust to strengthen our position regarding the use of an excavator to dredge the pond. No works may take place now until the winter.

9 Finance

- a) The latest financial position was received and accepted by all.
- b) The following payment was authorised.

Details	Payee	Amount	Power
Hastoe Field A3 prints for 26/2 mtg	Leiston Press	£30.00	LGA 1972 s.142

10 Administration

- The following documents were re-adopted by the PC.
- a) Model Standing Orders
- b) Financial Regulations
- c) Internal Controls
- d) Code of Conduct
- e) Risk Assessment
- f) Asset Register

11 Agree engagement of SALC for 2024/25 audit

It was agreed to employ SALC to carry out the internal audit, at a cost of £183 exc.VAT.

12 Agree to include October CIL figure for bin costs

Following last month's meeting and the agreement to use £225 CIL monies towards the purchase of a waste bin and dog refuse bin for the recreation ground, it was brought to the attention of the PC that a further CIL figure of £450 is available to spend before October 2025. It was agreed to also include this CIL figure towards the cost of the bins, representing a total of £675. The bins cost £755.16 exc. VAT.

13 Election of Vice Chairman

All councillors formerly agreed to appoint Cllr Thorpe as Vice Chair to Middleton-cum-Fordley Parish Council.

14 Village Path approach to Church

Cllr Lacey met on site with contractors. The scheme has been reduced to make it more cost effective, and a revised quote is expected by the end of this week. It was agreed to advise the respective neighbours of the works before commencement.

15 Correspondence. The problem of dog fouling around the perimeter of the recreation ground was raised again, with a noticeable increase during school holidays. This same problem was raised at the PC meeting on 11 June 2024. The clerk contacted the resident, at that time, who confirmed that they were happy for signs to go up. Action: Cllr Charles to source signs.

Village green grass cutting. Action: Clerk to confirm availability of suggested contact.

16 Items for Next Agenda.

Emergency Planning Group

17 Next Meeting. The date and time of the next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday 9 April 2025 at 7pm, at the Village Hall.

Thanks were given to Cllr Piercy for chairing the meeting. The meeting closed at 8pm.

MIDDLETON CUM FORDLEY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING AS SOLE TRUSTEE OF THE MIDDLETON RECREATION GROUND TRUST MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 12 MARCH 2025 AT 8pm AT THE VILLAGE HALL

1 Attendance and Apologies

Attendees:

Apologies: No apologies

Cllr Julian Cusack Cllr Giles Piercy Cllr Steve Thorpe Cllr Charles Macdowell Cllr Graham Lacey Cllr Michele Kendall Cllr Kathryn Rowe Cllr Chris Reynolds

In attendance: Rachael Salcombe – Clerk Member of the public x 1

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

3 Minutes

- a) Minutes approved of Trustee Meeting held on 12 February 2025.
- b) Matters Arising. None.
- 4 **To review Safety Inspection Report.** High risk findings have been indicated on the report, most noticeably the Multiplay, which has subsequently been fenced off. Contact has been made with a local contractor to provide a quote for fixing the Multiplay. Due to the urgency, this matter was handled before the councillors had an opportunity to approve the appointment of a contractor for the fencing works, therefore approval was given/ratified at this meeting (actual figures will be shared at April's meeting).

It was confirmed that there is a sign at the entrance to the recreation ground stating 'use at own risk'.

5 Correspondence. The DofE camping dates of June 27, July 4 and July 9 were approved and it was agreed to charge £20 for each of the three dates.

Cllrs Rowe and Kendall kindly offered to act as PC Advisors to the Pavilion Manager.

Action: Clerk to advise Pavilion Manager accordingly.

- 6 Matters for discussion. Cllr Kendall has been given a box of unwanted teddy bears. It was agreed that these could be offered for use at the Open Gardens event in June, in the form of a teddy trail. Action: Cllr Kendall to liaise with Christine Burgess.
- 7 Items for the next Agenda. None.
- 8 **Next Meeting**. Date of next meeting Wednesday 9 April 2025 at 8pm, to follow Parish Council meeting.

Meeting closed at 8.15pm.

DIARY DATES 2025

<u>April</u>

Thursday 3rd Saturday 5th Sunday 6th Wednesday 9th Wednesday 16th Wednesday 30th

<u>May</u>

Thursday 1st Monday 5th Monday 12th Wednesday 14th Monday 19th Wednesday 21st

June

Thursday 5th Sat/Sun 7th/8th Wednesday 11th Wednesday 18th Saturday 21st

July

Thursday 3rd Wednesday 9th Saturday 12th Wednesday 16th Saturday 19th

August

Thursday 7th Saturday 23rd Sunday 24th

September

Thursday 4th Saturday 6th Vinyl Night at the Bell from 6pm Wednesday 10th Parish Council Meeting , Village Hall, 7pm Wednesday 17th WI - Village Hall, Julie ~ Chocolate Makers, Beccles (History, testing , discount sales) 7.15pm

October

Thursday 2nd "Squit Night" - live music at The Bell - from 8pm Saturday 4th MCC Autumn Fayre Wednesday 8th Parish Council Meeting , Village Hall, 7pm Wednesday 15th WI - Village Hall, Barbara McElroy - Apples 'A Miscellany' 7.15pm

November

Thursday 6th Wednesday 12th Wednesday 19th

December

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

"Squit Night" - live music at The Bell - from 8pm Archive Open Day - Village Hall . 10.am - 3pm Cratfield concert . Holy Trinity 3pm Parish Council Meeting, Village Hall, 7pm WI - Village Hall . Mark Mitchels, The Suffolk Coastline 7.15pm The Holy Trinity Church Annual Parochial Church Meeting 2pm

"Squit Night" - live music at The Bell - from 8pm Literary Evening - details to follow - possibly combined with VE celebrations TBC Community Council AGM - Village Hall, 7pm Parish Council Meeting, Village Hall, 7pm Village Hall Management AGM 7pm WI – Village Hall Lesley Abery, Ash Farm Vineyard (With tasters) 7.15pm

"Squit Night" - live music at The Bell - from 8pm **Open Gardens** Parish Council Meeting, Village Hall, 7pm WI - Village Hall David Naylor RSPB ~ 'Birds & Habitat Minsmere Reserve' 7.15pm MCC Quiz

"Squit Night" - live music at The Bell - from 8pm Parish Council Meeting, Village Hall, 7pm Vinyl Night at the Bell from 6pm WI - Garden Party Summer Boules Competition

"Squit Night" - live music at The Bell - from 8pm Annual Village Fete - Playing Field 2pm 'Folk in the Garden' Manor House, charity fundraiser

"Squit Night" - live music at The Bell - from 8pm

"Squit Night" - live music at The Bell - from 8pm Parish Council Meeting, Village Hall, 7pm

WI - Village Hall, AGM tea & cakes 2.15pm