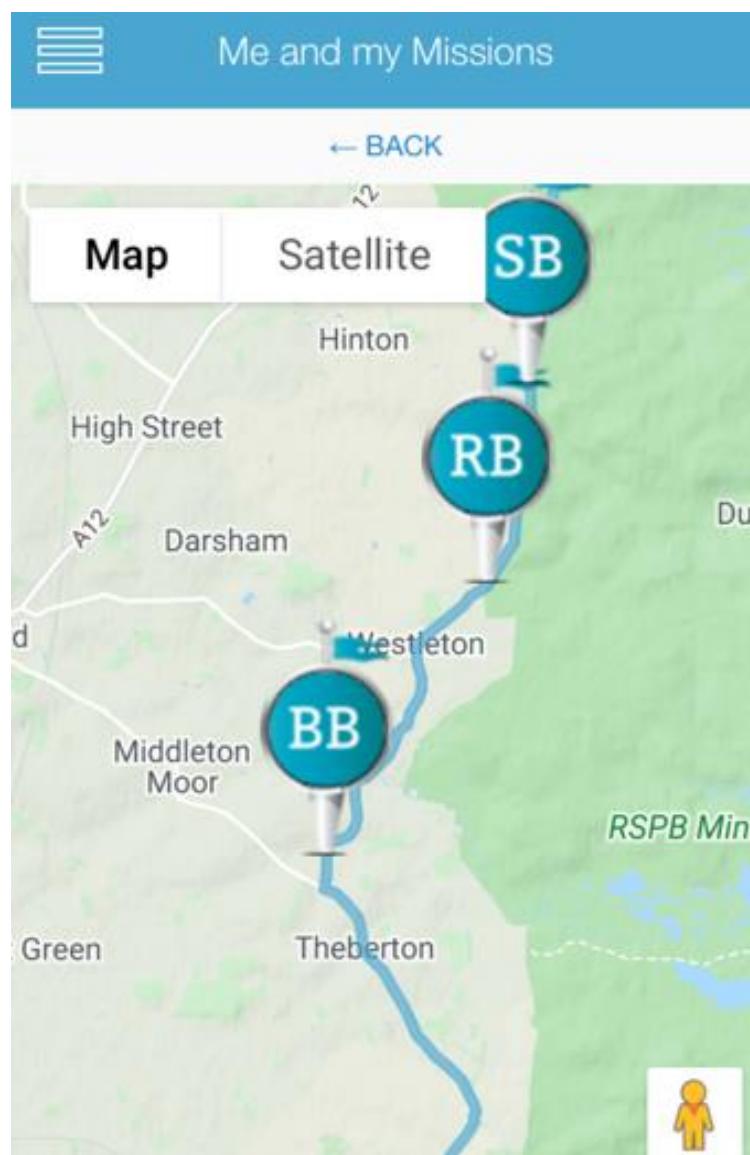


# MIDDLETON- CUM-FORDLEY



*"Steps of a Nurse" challenge progress, 15<sup>th</sup> May, see inside for more updates*

## NEWSLETTER

*JUNE 2021*

## Editorial

I suppose it's my fault! I must've jinxed the weather by saying in last month's editorial "though it's bound to be a heatwave then and we'll all want to be outside!" in reference to going indoors at the pub or other venues. Sorry!!

Hooray !! MCC have had a "real, in person" AGM and committee meeting, resulting in some forthcoming events to publicise and the back page can reclaim "Diary Dates"! Things might be a little different to previous years but let's hope the organising won't be in vain and we can start to move on.

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 22<sup>nd</sup> June ( not the final Tuesday of the month this time as there are hopefully events to publicise/remind you of in July.)**

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

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In partnership with  
THE NATIONAL LOTTERY  
COMMUNITY FUND

The Village Hall now has the Zoom facility so if you are having a meeting and someone can't be there in person, why not set up a Zoom connection from the Hall.

Middleton Archives - please start sending in any photos you'd like archived from the past year of 'Middleton in lockdown'. [mcfvillagehall@outlook.com](mailto:mcfvillagehall@outlook.com)

It would be nice to display these at the archive day planned for 3<sup>RD</sup> July. (see further on)

## Drop-in coffee morning - Thursdays 10-11.30 am

### Village Hall

The coffee morning is growing in popularity (could it be the allure of home-made cakes?) and can now either be indoors or out depending on the weather, so no more blankets needed folks!

All welcome.

Transport can be arranged if needed.

Contact Lesley 07970257329 or Lynda 668977

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



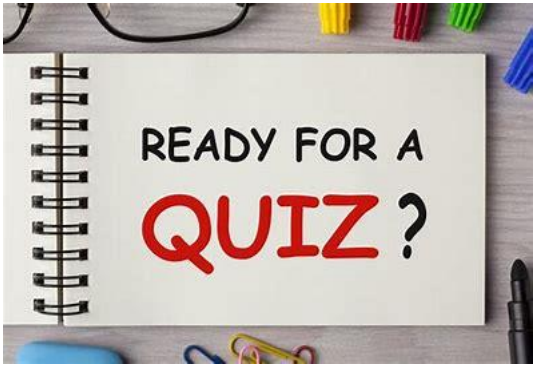
### Middleton Open Gardens - 14th and 15th August 2021

Unless things change we have our event for 2021.

Thank you all so much.

Irene Ralph 648622 or email [ireneralph333@gmail.com](mailto:ireneralph333@gmail.com)





After a year with no events to run Middleton -cum-Fordley Community Council are ready to begin organising again with – wait for it – an **OUTDOOR MIDSUMMER QUIZ !**

Entirely weather dependant of course, and hoping the gov. rules allow, but we propose to hold it on the playing field on

## **Friday 25<sup>th</sup> June**

Starting at **7pm** (be there before to claim your table) with quizmaster Peter at the mike.

(or not if he can be heard without a mike!!)

ONLY £2 per person to enter, plus the inevitable raffle of course (MCC need the funds as we raised none at all last year! Any donations of raffle prizes gratefully accepted.)

Maximum 6 per table, bring your own snacks/picnic/beer/wine whatever you wish to consume.

Bring your own chair, (umbrella, blanket,) pens and scrap paper, ‘sanitised’ answer sheets provided. In fact its almost a do-it-yourself Quiz!!!!

It would be handy to know how many tables we need to provide so please book one with either Barbara 648726 or Robert 07879612006

(Also handy to contact you if weather iffy and we need to cancel).

As always if you can't make up a table of 6 let us know and we'll try and pair you up.



??

## **MIDDLETON ARCHIVES**

New to the village? Like to find out a little of the local history ?

Not new to the village but like to find out some more?

The Village archives will be displayed in the village hall between 11 am and 3pm on

## **Saturday July 3<sup>rd</sup>**

All welcome to pop in and browse. Light refreshments will be on sale during the day in aid of MCC funds.





## **Ready for a boules competition?**

Then come and join us at the playing field piste for a summer pairs on

**Saturday July 24<sup>th</sup> from 10.am**

More details next month but put the date in your diaries, if you don't have a partner we can find you one.

Another date for your diaries – 'Santa Boules' hopes to return on Saturday December 4<sup>th</sup>.

Ooo

# **Middleton Village Fete, Autumn Fayre & Community Christmas Party**

The Community Council very much hope that these events will be able to take place this year and as such have started to make tentative plans. We will of course be governed by the rules at the time, so we can't guarantee they'll happen but fingers crossed. (Dates on the back page.)

All events will of course be published in the Newsletter in due course, so watch this space!



### **BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND...**

#### **LESLEY'S FRIDAY CURRIES – Friday 4<sup>th</sup> June – delivered to your door**

- Panang Chicken curry
- Microwaveable rice
- Asian Slaw
- Spring roll and dipping sauce



Regrettably due to price rises of ingredients I have to charge £12.50ph

Orders by Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> June please. New customers welcome.

Email: [taylormadeflowers@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:taylormadeflowers@yahoo.co.uk)

Phone: 07970257329

Payment by bank transfer please to:

L.Taylor- Nationwide 07 – 01- 16

Account 45981237

Middleton-cum-Fordley Community Council wish to thank Lesley for her generous donation of £200 towards the Community Christmas Meal from the lockdown Friday curries.

We are very happy to announce that after two attempts during the Covid year, our son and his fiancé will be getting married on the 12<sup>th</sup> of June 2021.

The service will be in Middleton church and then afterwards the reception in the Bell public house gardens. A tepee will be set up at the north end of the garden, to hopefully keep any disturbance to a minimum.

We will of course be adhering to the current Covid restrictions. We hope that this will not cause people living around the area too much inconvenience and thank you very much for your understanding.

Christine and David Burgess,

2, Stone Cottages,

The Street, Middleton



### **THE NAMING OF THE DRIVE**

Well done everybody who contributed to the 'Naming of the Drive' poll (we had 65 votes in total). Thank you to Barbara for doing the distribution both in the May Newsletter but more so the subsequent vote email and paper copies. We had a number of light-hearted suggestions that were never meant for the actual poll, but made me smile. One being: Roady McRoad Place - and yes, of course it had to be suggested! I also had some interesting and informative email conversations ranging from the delight of strawberries from the old Covent Garden Market in the 1960s to 'sweetheart' being the Suffolk name for cleavers/goosegrass and as I know it, sticky willy.

In the final count, the name which had twice as many votes as the runner up was .... **Roke Drive**.

The word 'roke' is an old East Anglian term for an early morning, or a late evening mist. Such a mist runs down the field of the Hastoe development at certain times of the year.

Runner up was 'Cutty Wren Meadows' and one vote behind that was 'Cockerel Drive'.

Hastoe has forwarded the name to East Suffolk Council which has subsequently been passed to our Parish Council for approval at the June meeting - such are the official processes!

Steve Thorpe - Parish Councillor

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

### **Village Hall Landscaping update**

Mandy and Steve have now seeded the bank and the adjacent area behind the village hall and placed some orange fencing across to avoid people walking on it. They have decided to postpone more of the planting till autumn.

The Village Hall committee would like to heartily thank them for their hard work so far and we hope to see the fruits of their labours before too long.



## June Nature Notes

In early spring the spectacular mass of delicate white flowers and pale green foliage, which abounds along the roadsides and hedge banks, makes an impressive sight. This of course is Cow Parsley, also known in a typically contrary Suffolk way as Sheep's Parsley, and sometimes by the descriptive title of Queen Anne's Lace. It has become more abundant in recent years benefiting as both nutrients from fertiliser run-off, and nitrogen from car fumes have increased.

Cow Parsley belongs to a family of plants known as the Apiaceae, formerly the Umbelliferae (Umbellifers), but commonly called the Carrot or the Parsley family. For the most part they can be recognised by the flowers that are arranged in a conspicuous umbel (a flat topped cluster of small flowers). Each individual small flower is usually bisexual with five petals and five sepals. The alternate feather divided leaves and hollow stems are also characteristic.

In Britain over 70 species of Apiaceae, both native and introduced, have been recorded. Many were brought into Britain for culinary purposes, for example species such as Carrots and Parsnips for their swollen taproots, and Celery for its stalks. The leaves of many species are aromatic; Fennel, Coriander, Dill, Lovage and Parsley have been used as flavouring herbs and also the seeds of Fennel, Coriander and Caraway have culinary use. Alexanders is the tall dark green umbellifer with greenish yellow flowers seen all around the verges in Middleton, It was once seen only near to the coast but in the last 30 years has been moving steadily inland and on light soils it can be very dominant, swamping out more delicate flora. It was introduced by the Romans as a vegetable and young stems, boiled and eaten with butter, are good eating with a strong, but pleasant flavour. Perhaps if more people today were aware of its culinary use then cropping of this freely available vegetable may help control its spread. However, not all umbellifers are so benign, Hemlock and some Water Dropworts are extremely poisonous, and dangerous because of their similarity to some edible plants and Giant Hogweed is regarded as a noxious weed because of the damage it can cause to skin.

In the countryside once the blooms of the Cow Parsley fade, a succession of similar species flower, Rough Chervil in June, succeeded by Upright Hedge-parsley in July. Hogweed (Cow Mumble in Suffolk) is in flower throughout the summer and its large inflorescences provide a nectar source for a variety of insects. Especially noticeable are Common Red Soldier Beetles, which have for obvious reasons been given the semi-official name of Hogweed Bonking Beetle. Hogweed flowers also provide a platform for predatory wasps and flies to attack from, so makes an ideal plant for all amateur entomologists to study.

Peter Vincent

PLEASE NOTE :



## HOLY TRINITY - MIDDLETON CUM FORDLEY



### Services for June

Sunday 13th June Morning Praise 11am  
Sunday 27th June CHC with Theberton 9.30am

There continue to be a variety of services on Zoom throughout the month. If you would like more information/a link to these, please contact Maureen Jolley: [maureen.yoxmereclergy@gmail.com](mailto:maureen.yoxmereclergy@gmail.com)

### Church re-opening

Unless circumstances change, Holy Trinity plans to be fully open once again from 2 June 2021 and the key to the door will go back in the safe where it belongs.

### PCC

Re-elections/appointments to the PCC following the APCM on 18 May:

Church Wardens: Rita Pateman: 648377 and Margaret Perrett: 648141

Safeguarding Officer: Rob Buxton: 07745 909353

Secretary: Amanda Taylor: 07990 602563

Treasurer: David Burgess

Margaret and Paul Taylor

Jenny and Mike Hemming

Paul B Taylor

### Holy Dusters

16 June - Nicola and Margaret

30 June - Amanda and Irene

14 July - Mike and Renny

28 July - Mark and Liz

11 August - Paul and Rob

## HOLY TRINITY CHURCH MIDDLETON RECEIVES A LIFELINE GRANT FROM THE GOVERNMENT'S CULTURE RECOVERY FUND UPDATE

**The vital repairs under this Grant will be to the South East Buttress and the associated area of the church.**

Timing for this essential work is as advised in the May NEWSLETTER - **starting Monday 28 June**

Unless unexpected delays or issues arise, work is expected to last for - **6 Weeks.**

Work will be external and at the East end of the Church and Services and other activities inside the Church will proceed as normal unless emergencies occur.

### **IMPORTANT INFORMATION**

Health and Safety requirements (supervised by DMA Health and Safety Ltd) requires that the Permissive Path at the East End of the Church will be closed during the duration of the works. In addition – the Eastern section of the path alongside the South of the Church will also be closed.

- We will put notices on the Permissive Path - but work area will be enclosed with safety fences.
- We are sorry this path will be closed - but it is essential for both Public and Site Worker safety.

The Contractor (R&J Hogg Ltd) will access the site from the Back Road gates and while some vehicles will stop in the Road for material unloading and similar operations – Contractor's vehicles will either park inside the churchyard or in the carpark at the playing fields.

A contractor's toilet will be placed near the Back Road Gate during the period of the works.

During works the water tap at the church will be unavailable. One at the Back Road gates will remain in use.

We are advised that **NO** photographs should be taken of the works (a data protection issue).

We apologise in advance for disruptions – but this work is vital to the future and wellbeing of the church.

Holy Trinity Church PCC

#### British Legion Poppy Appeal

After six years I am stepping down as the organiser of Middleton's poppy appeal. Is anyone willing to take this on? Please email me for more information. [grahaminghamparish@gmail.com](mailto:grahaminghamparish@gmail.com)



#### Could you help? Volunteer wanted.

Person ( or persons ) required to deliver the Fisherman magazine and a few newsletters once a month to houses in Minsmere Rise and two on Title road. You don't have to live on Minsmere rise but you could.

My grateful thanks on behalf of the team to Margaret Perrett who has delivered for the past ...? years! Thank you very much.

Please contact Barbara if interested by email preferably (address in the editorial) or phone 648726



#### ✓ Suffolk Recycles

Waste Advisor/Master Composter Co-ordinator Craig Renton • 1 day ago

#Scrapflytipping campaign says there is no excuse! Every year hundreds of thousands of pounds are spent clearing illegally dumped waste in Suffolk. You are paying to clear up someone else's mess. There are thousands of incidents of flytipping in Suffolk every year - find out more about the campaign and how you can help fight the tippers. Together let's #SCRAPflytipping  
<https://www.suffolkrecycling.org.uk/fly-tipping>



#### DO YOU NEED HELP AT HOME?

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



## UPDATE ON RENNY AND BARBARA'S PROGRESS

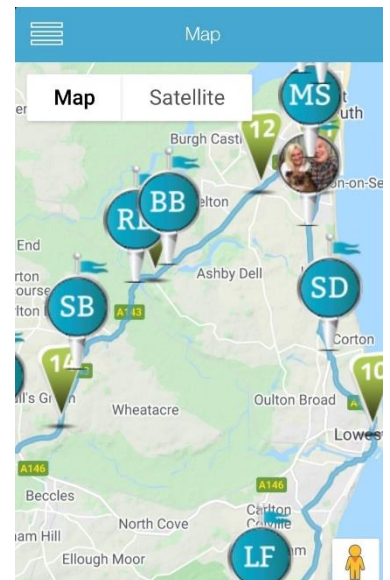


The virtual map on the Mission website shows our “virtual” progress on a circuitous route of Suffolk. It starts in Felixstowe, travels up through East Suffolk, and as the map on this issue front cover shows, on 15<sup>th</sup> May we “virtually” passed through Middleton on our way to the furthest north point of Great Yarmouth. From here the route takes us back through parts of Mid Suffolk and back to Ipswich finishing at the hospice. (Each set of initials is an individual participant.)

At the time of writing – 26<sup>th</sup> May – we are over half -way, almost 110 miles completed of the 190.

Along the way the website gives us little snippets of information on staff of the hospice or facilities they have. Today – a total surprise and unbeknown to us where she was on the route- we reached a milestone featuring Renny’s daughter Jo and the following text:

Well done for adding more steps to the bank! Say hello to Jo Shaw. Jo worked on IPU and now supports young adults who use our service, Zest – helping those aged 14+ with specialist care to live life to the full. “I always wanted to work for St Elizabeth Hospice and through working in cancer care I was very aware of the importance of hospices. Working with the young adults is just brilliant. Being around these remarkable people is so inspiring and to have their trust is such as privilege. They are our complete focus, as we ensure both they and their families achieve their goals, whether that is a few days to relax, to play games, to socialise or just have fun.”



**A HUGE THANKYOU** to all our friends and families who have supported us so far by donating to our ‘Just giving ‘ page or in person to one of us. It’s not too late – we did so well in reaching our target of £500 so quickly that we decided to up the target to £700. We are currently standing at £680 between us, so I think we should try and go for an optimistic £1000 by the end of June. 🙌 Thanks again everybody.

[www.justgiving.com/team/RennyBarbara](http://www.justgiving.com/team/RennyBarbara)

## Come join us ~

As we come together at the Recreation Ground  
on the 16th June at 7 pm for our  
**first get-together.**

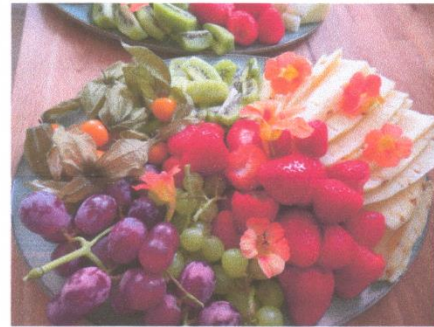
This will be an informal meeting and a chance for everyone to talk to friends we haven't seen for over a year.



On the 21st July at 4 pm  
join us for our

**Garden Party** at the Recreation Ground.

All are welcome.  
(Please bring a plate of something delicious.)



Middleton-cum-Fordley

WI



## WI News

In May we had not one but 2 Zoom meetings! On the 5th, Catherine Howard Dobson gave us a tour of the newly refurbished Aldeburgh Museum in the Moot Hall. This 16th century timber, wattle and daub building was originally 2 or 3 streets from the sea (now almost on the beach) and at the top was a hall and on the bottom were 6 shops. At one time the ground floor also contained the town gaol. The upper floor now houses museum exhibits and a beautiful local artisan long table used for town council meetings. There is also a Tudor fireplace that was once in Blackheath Mansion. Both floors contain artefacts from Aldeburgh's and Slaughden's (the hamlet that disappeared) pasts as well as information on local history, families, the 7 witches of Aldeburgh, sea pilots, lifeboats, pirates, fishing, floods and much more. Catherine's "virtual" tour of the new museum made us realise a "real" visit would be well worthwhile. The Moot Hall re-opened on May 17th.



At our second meeting, Sarah Clarke the information manager from the Suffolk Recycling Centres, gave us the lowdown on waste. Our bins are collected by companies paid by the Council. The green waste is made into compost. The recyclables are sorted at centres by hand. The paper and card is processed to make new paper, the plastic is made into pellets which turns into recycled plastic products, and cans and tins made into new tins. Sarah reassured us that in Suffolk no waste goes into landfill but all non recycables are incinerated for energy to power 30,000 homes. The ash produced is used for making aggregates for building material.

The Recycling Centres (like Leiston) are now open but by appointment only. Lucy sent round a leaflet to us all on how this is done. Everything can be sorted and taken there. The only charge is for sinks and building rubble. There is even an Orange container for donations, things not wanted but that are good enough to be resold at The Re-use Shops at Foxhall and Bury recycling centres. The money goes to the Benjamin Foundation to help young Suffolk people. We all learned something from this virtual talk, and we thanked Sarah for that.

No Zoom in June! On the 16th at 7pm we will be meeting at the playing field for tea, cake and a real chat. All welcome.

# Middleton News

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

## Ash Class

EYFS were investigating which object was heavier and which object was lighter. They used the scales using language such as more than, less than and the same as. Noah and Oliver were weighing the numicon and predicted correctly which number would be heavier the nine or the eight and were able to explain why.

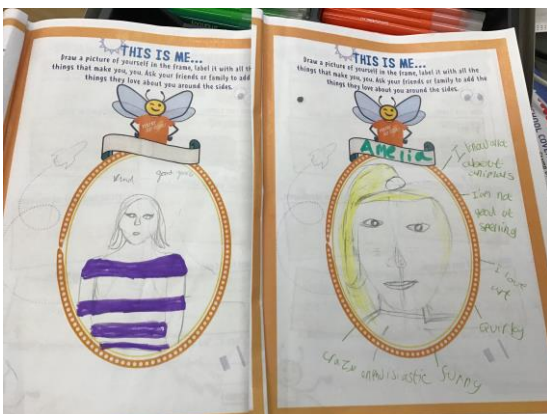
Early Years would like to send out a plea to all parents if you have any role play toys e.g kitchens, dolls high chairs/pushchairs anything that can be used we would be very grateful. Thank you.



## Maple/Spruce Class

This week as part of mental health awareness week Maple and Spruce have been learning about what makes us each special and the Power of Positivity. We have had lots of discussions over what makes a good friend and how to resolve conflict. As part of this we have spent time appreciating nature and learned a new playground game.

We are all really enjoying our adapted version of handball.



## Gardening

Spring has sprung and we have begun planting in earnest. The potatoes are in and we have some very keen gardeners to help us with our tomatoes, courgettes and peas. We look forward to feasting on our own home-grown produce in the months to come.



**Maple** have been using their resilience skills in maths this week. We have been learning about tenths and how to make a whole. Here they are enjoying adding tenths practically.



# MIDDLETON CUM FORDLEY PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE VIRTUAL ANNUAL COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON  
TUESDAY 4<sup>th</sup> MAY 2021 AT 6:00 PM VIA ZOOM

## 1. Election of Chair

Upon nominations duly made and seconded, Cllr. Julian Cusack was unanimously elected to serve as Chairman for the ensuing year and until his successor is elected.

**ACTION: Cllr. Julian Cusack to sign the Declaration of Office form and Clerk to sign as witness.**

## 2. Election of Vice-Chair and signing of Declaration of Office

Upon nominations duly made and seconded, Cllr. Roy Dowding was unanimously elected to serve as Vice-Chairman for the ensuing year and until his successor is elected.

**ACTION: Cllr. Roy Dowding to sign the Declaration of Office form and Clerk to sign as witness.**

## 4. Attendance and Apologies

### Attendees:

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

### Apologies for absence:

County Cllr. Richard Smith  
District Cllr. Jocelyn Bond  
District Cllr. TJ Haworth-Culf  
District Cllr. Tony Cooper  
Cllr. Lesley Taylor – written and accepted

### In attendance:

Sharon Smith - Clerk/RFO  
5 members of the public

5. **Councillors' Declarations of Interest** None.

6. **Meeting Minutes** The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> April 2021 were approved.

## 7. Matters Arising

Cllr. Julian Cusack informed the Council that a letter had been received from the Chairman of Kelsale Parish Council regarding the Council's proposal to request that Fordley Road is kept open should the Sizewell Link Road be built. Kelsale Parish Council raised concerns about the incentive for rat-running through its parish and objected to the Council recording its position about Sizewell C matters in its minutes.

**ACTION: Cllr. Cusack to contact the Chairs of all neighbouring Parish Councils to understand their positions and to seek to allay any concerns.**

## 8. Casual Vacancy

Cllr. Julian Cusack reported that he, Cllr. Lesley Taylor and Cllr. Lynda Whitbread interviewed an applicant for the Casual Vacancy. Cllr. Cusack recommended that the applicant is co-opted at the next meeting if he wishes to proceed and this was agreed.

## 9. Councillors' Appointments

a) Cllr. Julian Cusack, Cllr. Roy Dowding and Cllr. Colin Whitbread were appointed to the Finance Working Group.

b) Cllr. Julian Cusack, Cllr. Chris Reynolds, Cllr. Steve Thorpe and Cllr. Lesley Taylor were appointed to the Recreation Ground Working Group.

c) The Council agreed to discontinue the Planning Working Group as planning matters are considered at full Council meetings. Extraordinary meetings will be called to consider planning applications requiring a response before the next Ordinary meeting. Cllr. Chris Reynolds and Cllr. Steve Thorpe agreed to take the lead on planning matters.

**ACTION: Clerk to forward the Local Plan and link to District Council's planning portal to Cllr. Chris Reynolds and Cllr. Steve Thorpe.**

- d) The Council appointed Cllr. Lesley Taylor and Cllr. Lynda Whitbread to liaise with the Village Hall Committee.
- e) The Council appointed Cllr. Lynda Whitbread to liaise with the Primary School.
- f) The Council appointed Cllr. Colin Whitbread to liaise with the Summer Wine Group.
- g) The Council appointed Cllr. Julian Cusack to liaise with the Moor Management Group.
- h) The Council appointed Cllr. Steve Thorpe to lead on Highways, Footpaths, Trees and Green Issues.
- i) The Council agreed that Cllr. Chris Reynolds should be added as a signatory to the Council's bank accounts

**ACTION: Clerk to arrange.**

## **10. Annual Accounts/Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR)**

- a) The Council approved the Annual Accounts for the financial year 2020-2021.
- b) The Council approved the bank reconciliation for the financial year 2020-2021
- c) The Council postponed approval of the following items until the next meeting:
  - i) The Annual Governance Statement (Section 1) of the AGAR.
  - ii) The Accounting Statements (Section 2) of the AGAR.
  - iii) The Certificate of Exemption.
  - iv) The analysis of the Significant Variances from the previous financial year.
  - v) Setting the period for the exercise of public rights.

## **11. Energy Projects and Public Forum**

Cllr. Julian Cusack invited the members of the public present to speak if they wish.

Cllr. Roy Dowding informed the Council of the matters discussed at the recent meeting with EDF:

- With regard to keeping Fordley Road open, Cllr. Dowding said they were still waiting for EDF to provide visuals but there is no potential for a flat junction. The visual amenity of the landscape will be compromised by an overpass and there are drainage issues with an underpass. A resident said the proposed crossing would be near his property therefore he had a keen interest in this matter. His preference was not for an overpass which would be a monstrously high structure and unsightly. Cllr. Steve Thorpe replied that he understood his concerns but it was also important to consider access to Kelsale and Saxmundham. Cllr. Colin Whitbread said he understood the issue was divisive but his preferred option was to terminate Fordley Road as the flyover would be an unsightly eyesore on the countryside. Cllr. Julian Cusack said that vehicles could access Kelsale and Saxmundham via the A12 or Pretty Road which EDF are considering keeping open by way of a bridge over the SLR. Cllr. Cusack said the Council is supporting Quiet Lanes throughout the parish and is interested in reducing traffic volumes however, cyclists and pedestrians prefer to use Fordley Road and Littlemoor Road so perhaps it would be a compromise to keep cycleways and footpaths open along these routes. The resident replied that this would be a good compromise as a bridge of that nature would not require such an excessive cut and fill. Cllr. Cusack said that a decision does not need to be taken now and he would consult the neighbouring Parish Councils for their views.
- Cllr. Dowding said that EDF were discussing speed enforcement measures for the B1122 and the B1125 with SCC Highways.
- Cllr. Dowding raised with EDF the issues of property blight, noise and vibration for properties along the B1122. EDF's proposed Property Price Scheme currently only includes properties in a narrow, restrictive corridor directly affected by the works. Cllr. Dowding understands that EDF are not under any legal obligation to compensate property owners for loss but told them this was grossly unfair and an adequate compensation scheme should be built into all Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects.
- Cllr. Dowding said that EDF will maintain the B1122 if vehicular damage occurs to the surface and if the level crossing is closed they will halt all HGV movements to ensure they do not use side roads.

- With regard to the B1125 junction with the Sizewell Link Road, Cllr. Dowding reported that EDF would like it to be built to take vehicles away from Theberton. EDF's traffic modelling predicts a total of 3,000 vehicles per day will use the B1125 by 2028 therefore Sizewell traffic should be encouraged to use the Link Road.
- Cllr. Dowding asked EDF to provide footpaths along the B1122 from the Moor to Mill Street and along the B1125 from Rectory Road to Westleton. EDF responded that they would discuss this with SCC Highways. It was agreed to provide EDF with a map with the Council's preliminary observations on the proposed footpaths. Cllr. Cusack said he would ask Westleton parish for its views on the proposed B1125 footpath.
- Cllr. Dowding raised concerns with EDF about airborne pollution. EDF said they will ensure levels are kept within regulatory limits.
- Cllr. Dowding confirmed that Middleton cum Fordley will be eligible to apply for funding from EDF's Community Fund.

A resident requested that the Council register to speak at the Open Hearings by Deadline 1 on 12<sup>th</sup> May. The Open Hearings will take place between 18<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> May and the Council will be allotted 15 minutes to speak. The resident also asked the Council to register to attend some Specific Hearings on matters relevant to the parish, particularly transport and the B1122. With regard to the Planning Inspectorate's Site Inspection at Hinkley Point C, the resident recommended that the visit should not be accompanied by EDF and that the Planning Inspectorate should be asked to look at night glow.

A resident said that an underpass at Fordley Road was feasible with sumps, pumps and drains. He said maintaining access was important as landowners cannot access their fields or Saxmundham via the Link Road. The resident said he was writing, as a courtesy, to everyone who had responded to his survey about the legacy of the Link Road to say their voice had been heard.

Cllr. Cusack said the next step for the Council was to confirm its position on various matters after consultation with the adjoining parishes.

## 12. Progress Reports

- Quiet Lanes – Cllr. Chris Reynolds informed the Council that due to the successful take-up of the Quiet Lanes Scheme, all parishes had been asked to make a contribution of £50 per route. The signage costs for the first two routes is guaranteed by grant funding therefore Cllr. Reynolds proposed that the Council approves the remaining £250 cost. The Clerk advised that Community Infrastructure Levy receipts could be used for this expenditure. All were in favour.
- Recreation Ground – Cllr. Julian Cusack asked the Council, as Trustees of the Recreation Ground, to consider approval of a donation of £50 from Trust funds to a local person who renovated a bench at their own expense as a memorial. All were in favour of this show of appreciation.
- Hastoe Housing – Cllr. Steve Thorpe reported that Hastoe had asked the Council for suggestions for a name for the new access road. Cllr. Thorpe had drafted a newsletter article asking residents for their suggestions which will be put to a vote.
- Village Hall – Cllr. Chris Reynolds informed the Council that he liaised with the Management Committee and he has arranged for three professionals to carry out a separate initial assessment of the condition of the roof.

## 13. Finance

- The Council approved the continuation of the Clerk as Responsible Financial Officer.
- The Council noted the latest financial position, including receipts.
- The Council approved the bank reconciliation for the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter 2020-2021.
- The Council authorised the payments below:

Details	Payee	Amount	Power
Clerk's Salary	Sharon Smith	£230.60	LGA 1972 s.112
Clerk's Expenses	Sharon Smith	£26.28	LGA 1972 s.111
British Gas	Pavilion Electricity	£32.41	LGA 1972 s.19

#### 14. Correspondence

The Council reviewed the correspondence received between 8<sup>th</sup> April 2021 and 28<sup>th</sup> April 2021.

#### 15. Items for the Next Agenda

- a) New flooring for the pavilion.
- b) Burial ground.

#### 16. Next Meeting

The Council confirmed the date and time of the next meeting of the Council which is scheduled for Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> June 2021 at 6:00 pm at the Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 7:45 pm.

**The minutes of the Annual Parish meeting with village reports held on 4th May 2021 are available on the website at [middletoncumfordleywebsite.zohosites.com](http://middletoncumfordleywebsite.zohosites.com) or from the Parish Clerk.**

[parishclerkmiddletoncumfordley@gmail.com](mailto:parishclerkmiddletoncumfordley@gmail.com)

#### **The Parish Council's oral submission delivered at the Examining Authority's Sizewell C Open Hearing and is its Written Representation.**

My name is Julian Cusack and I am Chair of Middleton-cum-Fordley Parish Council for whom I am speaking.

Middleton lies three miles north west of the site of Sizewell C and has the B1122 running through it on its way from Yoxford to Leiston. The B1125 runs from Blythburgh through the east of the village to join the B1122 to the south.

The parish comprises three distinct areas. The first is the main village to the north east of the Parish. The second is Middleton Moor on higher ground to the west.

There are 13 homes on or near Middleton Moor. Some of the smaller homes front directly on to the main road and will be subject to major hazards from noise, vibration and pollution if construction traffic is routed along the B1122 as is proposed in the early years of the project.

Middleton Moor itself is highly valued and an important habitat supported by grants from Natural England. It comprises seven and a half acres of common land and includes wildlife rich ponds. Experience during the pandemic has confirmed the importance of green spaces such as the Moor to well-being and good mental health.

The third area is Fordley - a smaller settlement, which will be severed from Middleton by the proposed link road, of which more later.

Like many other communities there is growing interest in preserving and enhancing the biodiversity of the village environment and in the encouragement of cycling and walking. Recent initiatives by the Parish Council have included a bid for quiet lanes status on a number of our minor roads and an agreement with Highways to defer the cutting of verges.

These gains are threatened by the applicant's proposal to develop a huge industrial site visible from the higher points of our Parish and to route vast numbers of vehicles through our village along the B1122 in the early years of construction. The proposed link road will sever the Quiet Lanes and severely restrict walking and cycling routes to the south.

Before I get into an examination of our position on mitigation, I would like to tell you about a meeting I had yesterday with a lady who lives alone on a small farm which will lie immediately south of the proposed Sizewell link road. She is in her 80s and has lived there all her life. Like many of our residents she is knowledgeable and appreciative of the

diverse local wildlife and she directed me to a pond in a spinney that will be within metres of the new road and which is a proven habitat for great crested newts.

I would also like to tell you about a couple who bought a property on Fordley Road. The link road was proposed after they completed the purchase and now they are facing the devastating prospect of this road going right past them. One of them suffers from asthma and is very concerned that poor air quality from multiple HGV exhausts will adversely affect her health and well-being.

I have also spoken with one of the farm owners whose land will be bisected by the proposed link road. Farming is one of our principal local business sectors. As well as losing valuable Grade 2 agricultural land to the proposed new road he will experience increased costs of working from the disruption of farm access routes.

If the applicant's proposals go ahead, it will be at the expense of these individuals.

It will be at the expense of all those who live along the B1122 and the B1125 who will be in the front line of dealing with increased noise and pollution.

But similar effects in one way or another will be experienced throughout the Parish.

In preparation for this submission, I and my fellow Councillors have spoken to over 120 residents of Middleton in the last few days.

We can therefore report that nearly all of our residents are opposed to the construction of SZC. The opponents include some who work or have worked in the nuclear industry but are unconvinced by the business, environmental or engineering case for SZC.

The Parish Council does not accept that there is a need for a new nuclear power station at Sizewell and it is our view that the negative impacts of the proposed development of SZC are so severe that adequate mitigation is not possible.

While many of our residents are very concerned about the environmental and social impact of the main site development, we consider that there are other interested parties better able to address those concerns. This also applies to concerns about the impact on tourism and the quality of the visitor experience which is a concern to the several accommodation businesses in our village.

I will therefore spend the rest of our time talking about the proposed link road and its implications for our residents.

1. Based on our current survey results we can confirm that if SZC is approved then we do want a relief road to be provided to take construction traffic away from the B1122 through Middleton Moor. This is particularly essential for the peace and health of the people living along the B1122.
2. There is disbelief that the applicant does not propose to complete the SLR until well into the construction period and we demand that this timing be reconsidered.
3. Not surprisingly, the majority view is that the Link Road should not be routed through Middleton but taken on a route leaving the A12 further south. We appreciate that the applicant has rejected this route, but we request that they be asked to re-examine it.
4. The proposed route of the link road will sever 4 minor roads leading to the south which are of particular concern to us. We have found from our survey that the most used route for trips by car to Saxmundham and beyond is Pretty Road which leaves the B1122 in Theberton to our east. We support proposals advanced by Theberton and Eastbridge PC to keep Pretty Road open by way of a bridge over the SLR.
5. The next most used of the minor routes is Fordley Road. The current proposal is to stop this up on the north side but not on the south. Fordley Road is a single carriageway road with little provision of passing places. It is already occasionally congested if traffic held up on the A12 seeks a cut through to the B1122 east bound. This risk is perceived to be increased if SZC goes ahead. Some of our residents would therefore support the proposed stopping up of the road and indeed would extend that to the south side of the SLR.

The Parish Council is highly sympathetic in particular to the plight of the residents who live on Fordley Road nearest to the SLR and who do want the road stopped up.



However, there are many of our residents who use Fordley Road as an alternative vehicle route to Saxmundham albeit not as many as for Pretty Road. Some of these accept, if reluctantly, that if Pretty Road is kept open they can live with the closure of Fordley Road. But some would like it kept open by bridge or underpass which may also assist with farm access.

6. There is growing use of Fordley Road by walkers and cyclists. We therefore request that if it is closed to motor vehicles there should be a lightweight bridge over the SLR suitable for walkers and cyclists to gain access to the south.

7. Our survey also covered mitigation for the impact of increased levels of traffic forecast for the B1122 and B1125 particularly in the early years before the SLR is complete. There was strong support for the provision of segregated foot and cycle paths. Specifically we would like to see these along the B1122 from Middleton Moor to Mill Street and from Rectory Road north to the footpath known as Black Slough and potentially all the way to Westleton. We would also like to see a 30mph speed limit on the B1125 between Westleton and Middleton.

8. We have also consulted residents on the proposed B1125 extension to the SLR. Many are concerned that this will generate additional traffic along the B1125 and consider that this risk outweighs any benefit.

In talking to our residents about the SLR we have encountered denial, dis-belief and real distress that we are being asked to make impossible judgments about how to deal with the severance of our Parish by a major new road. Emotions have run high and it has been at times difficult to reconcile different opinions on some issues. There is strong empathy with those who live along the B1122 who would be worst affected if there is no relief road. Many think the solution is to build the relief road elsewhere. Others ask whether this isn't just exporting the problem to somewhere else where it may cause just as much upset.

Most are unconvinced that there is any strong case for a new nuclear power station at Sizewell and resent therefore being asked to make impossible choices about how to best mitigate the effects of the SLR on our residents, our farm businesses and our valued landscapes.

### **Sizewell C – Preliminary Hearing**

*Over 150 people spoke at the preliminary hearing at the examination of the examination of the Sizewell C proposals, including a number of people from our village. Virtually all the speakers were against the proposal. This is what Nigel Smith had to say.*

I am speaking today for myself and my wife, Marilyn Hands. We are both residents of Middleton, a small village about three-and-a-bit miles north-west of Sizewell. Both of us were chartered surveyors holding senior positions in the private and public sectors – but we are now retired.

Government has identified Sizewell as potentially suitable for a nuclear power station development. This is not an unequivocal endorsement. Neither should it be, if this examination is to serve its proper purpose and not merely be a rubber-stamping exercise. The principal reason for Sizewell being identified is that the local population are inured to nuclear development. In environmental, ecological and economic terms, one would be hard pressed to find a less suitable site.

Our grounds of objection are legion and principally relate to the construction of the scheme – not its operation. However, today I shall confine myself to four topics: economy, environment the so-called Sizewell Relief Road; and lastly EDF's risible public consultation.

First, the economy. EDF has made much of the benefits of the scheme to the local economy and job creation. But unemployment in our part of Suffolk is low. Most of EDF's workers will be parachuted in from Hinkley. Very few jobs will be truly local. EDF defines local as being within a 90-minute drive time – so its figures for local employment are ridiculous. I reckon we have something like 20,000 people within 10 miles of the site – about 8,000 of whom are of working age and the vast majority of these are happily in gainful employment already. The development will simply overwhelm the local economy. The local tourism industry will be irreparably damaged. Tradesmen are already in short supply. Higher wages for those in cleaning and catering will lure service industry workers from the local hospitality businesses. Rents and house prices will rise as properties are let to the construction workforce - forcing out locals.

One way or another – by way of electric bills or subsidy - the British Public will pay for this development. If we look at the scheme in terms of job creation, the cost of £20bn equates to about: £800k per temporary post created; £300k *per man year* of construction employment; or £20m per permanent job created. These figures represent appalling value by any standard – especially in an area which does not need the jobs.

Some in the district council and local chamber of commerce can only see pound signs. Some have likened them to whores in a gold rush – an unkind but a very apt analogy. During construction, the local economy will boom.

Once construction stops, it will collapse – just like a goldrush. EDF may tell us differently. But the developments of SZA and SZB have left Leiston as one of the poorest small towns in Suffolk. Why should SZC be any different?

Now the environment and ecology. The construction site will sever the AONB – in a place which many around here value highly for walking, recreation and nature watching, including me – a keen bird photographer and my Marilyn – a keen walker.

The stretch of coast and inland areas between Thorpeness and Walberswick represent a rare combination of habitats - coastal cliffs and dunes, marsh, woodland, scrub, pasture and arable. They form a critical mass which supports a wonderful diversity of flora and fauna. Nothing EDF says gives me any confidence that this unique combination of habitats will survive the onslaught of the construction of SZC – with an immediate development area of well over 1,000 acres comprising the construction site, a huge concrete batching plant, massive borrow pits, spoil heaps over 100 feet high, a five storey portacabin campus for 2,400 workers along with a large caravan site, marshalling yards, car parks and freight depots. How can such a development not seriously impact on the local ecology?

Some of our valuable local species may be lost to the area for ever. EDF says it is providing compensatory habitats. One of these is in West Suffolk – not much good for our local wildlife. Habitats take time to mature. And they won't necessarily attract displaced wildlife. How are our bearded tits, marsh harriers, stone curlews and bitterns going to know where to go?

And now for the Sizewell Link Road. Right from the off, locals have been concerned about the impact of construction traffic on the B1122. If the development were to go ahead, they wanted to see EDF build a new road, which would minimise severance and disturbance and have lasting value. The link road appeared out of the blue at Stage 3 of the consultation process. Locals could not believe it. EDF gave us the choice of their new road or nothing. It was a bit like saying to us, "You are going to die: do you want to be shot or hung?" Reasonable and rational alternatives were cursorily dismissed without any real explanation – though we have seen some attempted post-event rationalisation. But it is really all about money and EDF's relentless pursuit of cost reduction.

The road will offer no lasting benefit; it is unsustainable. It will sever several quiet cross-country lanes, paths, tracks and farms. It will destroy attractive countryside. If it is built, it should be dug up on completion. The question we should be asking is "Would we want to build this road once construction is completed?" As things stand the B1122 is operating well below capacity. Would the new road be needed to take the marginal increase in traffic along the B1122 from the operation of SZC over general traffic growth? Of course not. So, it should be dug up and the land restored, and the lanes and byways reopened.

Lastly, consultation. What EDF claims to have been consultation has been an absolute joke. Even the County and the District said they had too little information on which to base an opinion. EDF asked the public questions like "Should we have a long thin pier, or a short fat one?" We would suggest that, unless one had a degree in hydrology, this was not a question on which one could give an informed opinion. Important matters were overlooked while diversionary minor issues were brought to the fore. For example, in the first round of consultation, we were asked where the visitor centre should go. EDF failed to address the really big issues such as "Should we build a link road, and if so, where?" In fact, it told us that under government planning policy, it could not build a link road unless commanded by government!

Moreover, EDF has kept the feedback secret. It says that it has framed its proposals in the light of this feed-back. But given its record to date, we have no faith in what it says at all.

Come what may, the community has neither been properly nor fully consulted on EDF's proposals. More consultation was needed – and it needed to be transparent.

So, to conclude, Sizewell C will be disastrous for the local economy; it will probably irreparably damage the local environment and fragile interlinked ecology; the crazy Sizewell Relief Road should be dug up and the land reinstated once construction is complete; and lastly EDF's token, box-ticking exercise has made a mockery of public consultation.

**Nigel Smith and Marilyn Hands**

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### **Middleton Amateur Weather Station Rainfall Recordings**

	1 year ago (2020)	10 years ago (2011)	20 years ago (2001)	30 years ago (1991)	Average (1991 – 2020)
February	85.5mm	52.0mm	94.0mm	31.0mm	50mm
March	24.5mm	8mm*	92mm	26mm	47mm
April	18mm	8mm	63mm	50mm	41.3mm
May	0.5mm	18mm	41mm	20mm	55.6mm
June	48mm	92mm	46mm	92mm	51.9mm

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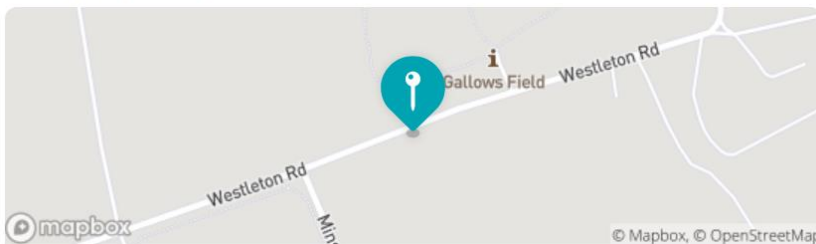


Please contact Leroy if you wish to be included on Bell e-mailing list

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Car parking on the Westleton/Dunwich Road. Natural England has put a sign up on the main car park stating that it now costs £1.50 to park for an hour !



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## **Diary Dates for 2020 – Aspirational in some cases!**

### **June**

Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> Parish council meeting , Village Hall **6pm**  
Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> WI get-together, Recreation Ground **7pm**  
Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> Newsletter copy date  
Friday 25<sup>th</sup> OUTDOOR QUIZ see advert inside

### **July**

Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> Archive Day, Village Hall **11am -3pm**  
Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> Parish council meeting , Village Hall **6pm**  
Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> WI - Garden Party Recreation Ground **4pm**  
Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> Summer boules Pairs competition, Recreation Ground from **10 am**  
Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> Newsletter copy date

### **August**

Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> Parish council meeting , Village Hall **6pm**  
Sat/Sun 14<sup>th</sup> 15<sup>th</sup> Open Gardens  
Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> Annual Village Fete  
Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> Newsletter copy date

### **September**

Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> Parish council meeting , Village Hall **6pm**

### **October**

Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> Mafafam ( Autumn Fayre)  
Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> Parish council meeting , Village Hall **6pm**

### **November**

Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> Parish council meeting , Village Hall **6pm**

### **December**

Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> Santa Boules  
Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> MCC party  
Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> Parish council meeting , Village Hall **6pm**