

**MIDDLETON CUM FORDLEY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING AS SOLE TRUSTEE OF
THE MIDDLETON RECREATION GROUND TRUST
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 9 JULY 2025
AT 8.15pm AT THE VILLAGE HALL**

1 Attendance and Apologies

Attendees:

Cllr Julian Cusack
Cllr Steve Thorpe
Cllr Charles Macdowell
Cllr Chris Reynolds
Cllr Kathryn Rowe
Cllr Michele Kendall

Apologies accepted for absence:

Cllr Giles Piercy

In attendance:

Rachael Salcombe – Parish Clerk
Members of the public x 1

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

3 Minutes

Minutes approved of Trustee Meeting held on 11 June 2025.

4 To review Safety Inspection Report. Councillors were unable to access the report issued by the Clerk. **Action: Clerk to contact the provider and re-issue the report.**

The repair to the flat seat swings has been partially finished; the top beam has been secured to the posts. The contractor is awaiting a part to complete the repair.

Upon enquiry, it was confirmed that the Burma bridge is unrepairable, with the high-risk element removed.

An update from the Recreation Ground Working Group confirmed that replacing the play equipment is a priority. There is no money available from the PC, or the Recreation Ground Trust, therefore monies must come from funding opportunities, including the SZC Community Fund. The wish list currently includes play equipment, adult exercise equipment, fencing, improvements to the pavilion and allotments. Feedback will be sought from residents before an application is submitted.

It was confirmed that three play equipment companies have been engaged to provide their expertise/advise to help make the most of the area and meet the needs of the village.

The meeting was advised of the pavilion flooding a couple of weeks ago. The stopcock joint inside one of the cabinets had failed. The stopcock was turned off and the worst affected cabinet removed. A plumber has since been onsite and made good. There are further cabinets and worktop that need replacing and a contractor will be on site tomorrow to provide a quote. The damage is covered by our insurance policy and the claim has been reported to the insurer (Hiscox). It is currently unknown whether the freezer has been damaged so this will need to be investigated further.

Our current insurance is up for renewal and the broker, CAS Ltd, are suggesting that the PC move away from Hiscox to a new provider, Ansvar. It was agreed that, as the PC are about to make a claim, we go back to CAS Ltd and request a renewal quote from Hiscox, thus remaining with them. **Action: Clerk to liaise with CAS Ltd.**

5 Finance

a) To approve the following payments

Details	Payee	Amount	Power
P30 Q1 Income Tax – Pavilion Manager	HMRC	£117.00	1972 s.112
Fence Hire. Invoices 17718 and 17841	Leiston Plant Hire	£336.00	1972 s.137

b) Trust accounts for year ended 31 March 2025 were approved. Last year the accounts were viewed independently, however the accounts have been kept by the clerk this year and the year-end accounts completed by the Chair, thus it was felt unnecessary to involve a third party. **Action: Clerk to send year-end accounts to the Charities Commission.**

6 Grant Application for play equipment etc. See above.

7 Correspondence. None.

8 Matters for discussion. None.

9 Items for the next Agenda. None.

10 Next Meeting. Date of next meeting Wednesday 10 September 2025 to follow on after the Parish Council Meeting.

Meeting closed at 8.30pm.