

# MIDDLETON - CUM - FORDLEY



A lovely display from the Harvest Festival in church.

## NEWSLETTER

*October 2024*

## Editorial

Summer events may have come and gone but there's more coming up through the Autumn, starting with the food and music fest of our Autumn Fair where the local Random Blues Band will once again be performing. Rumour has it a relative of Worzel Gummidge will be appearing also! Come and try your hand at apple peeling, guessing the weight of a pumpkin, play conkers, wang wellies, bowl for a dinner and more. Hopefully it will be better weather than this years fete!

Any residents wishing to opt for a digital version of this newsletter can contact me on the email below.

Contributions for the next edition by email preferably as a WORD doc please, as usual to: [barbara.barker.t21@btinternet.com](mailto:barbara.barker.t21@btinternet.com) or dropped in to

6 Meadowview, Rectory Road, by **Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> October** .

Spare paper copies will be in the church porch as usual.

Also to be found on the Parish website: [www.middletoncumfordley.org.uk](http://www.middletoncumfordley.org.uk)

Donations may be made to:  
HSBC Middleton Newsletter  
sort code 40-28-33  
account number 61054236



### **Coastal Accessible Transport Service**

Individual car service and minibus service



**An update from CATS :** we operate in many towns and villages in East Suffolk such as Saxmundham, Leiston, Woodbridge, Walberswick, Aldeburgh, Framlingham, Campsea Ashe, Wickham Market and villages in between on various services such as Katch, Connecting Communities and Wheels within Wheels.

All our minibuses are wheelchair accessible and are there to assist with journeys to enable people who may need a little more assistance to remain independent and get out and about. We have many different types of journeys being taken every day, getting children safely to school, adults to and from work and when the weather's lovely, trips to the seaside. We also hire out minibuses to local community groups for use for their activities. The car service provides a driver in their own car for individual journeys to any kind of appointment, shopping or wherever the client needs to go, and all you pay is the petrol money to the driver and a small annual membership to CATS.

At CATS (Coastal Accessible Transport Service) based at Colonial House, Leiston, we have extended our opening hours to now include Saturdays between 9am and 12:30pm. This means that you can book a journey with Katch and Connecting Communities for the very same day or the week ahead (though obviously we do prefer a bit of notice where possible.)

**However, we still desperately need more volunteer drivers so that we can continue to provide transport for those unable to drive or cannot physically use public transport.**

If you could give anything from a few hours to a whole day, you could either use your own car (fuel expenses will be covered), or we could get you trained to drive one of our minibuses, we – and our clients – would be extremely grateful.

Contact us on 01728 830516 or visit our website at [www.cats-paws.co.uk](http://www.cats-paws.co.uk)

### **Alde Valley Suffolk Family History Group**

The AVSFHG is holding a full day meeting at the Fromus Centre, Saxmundham with members exhibiting their subjects for the full day 10 - 4.00 pm on Saturday the 5th of October. Janet Barnes will have for her exhibits all her Middleton -cum- Fordley farm histories. She expects that this information may be of interest for Middleton residents. Note her new email if anybody wants to know more. [jxbarnes38@gmail.com](mailto:jxbarnes38@gmail.com)

### **THURSDAY COFFEE MORNING** 10.45 -12



**Every Thursday : why not come along to the Village Hall for coffee or tea, cake and a chat, all FREE!!!!**

**And...** with the change in the weather thoughts are turning to providing the home- made soup once again (from November) . No transport ? No problem – we can organise lifts. Call Lynda on 07890 067054 Or 01728 668977

Middleton-cum-Fordley

## Autumn Celebration of Food and Music

Join in the fun and creativity by  
entering our prestigious

### APPLE PIE COMPETITION

No set recipe,  
Only Apple as fruit ingredient,  
Pastry top & bottom,  
Upto 12" diameter

ALL ENTRANTS WELCOME - ANY AGE

Saturday 12th October

At The Bell Inn Meadow

Entries to be in 12:00 -12:30

As always offers of  
help setting up / taking  
down, cakes, raffle  
prizes all gratefully  
received.

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

or Bev for cakes  
[sbc@chamberlain3.plus.com](mailto:sbc@chamberlain3.plus.com)

Middleton-cum-Fordley

## AUTUMN

### Celebration of Food & Music

Apples, Pumpkins, Wellies,  
Games, Food, Stalls,  
**Random Blues Band**  
Apple Pie & Conker Contest

Saturday 12th October

At The Bell Inn Meadow  
12 - 3pm



## ANNUAL VILLAGE HALL QUIZ

Friday 15<sup>th</sup> November

7pm

Teams of up to 6    £5 per head    Licensed bar    Raffle    Homemade soup supper

contact [barbara.barker.t21@btinternet.com](mailto:barbara.barker.t21@btinternet.com) to book

At our September meeting we welcomed Mary Newton who retired after 40 years working as a Forensic Scientist Biologist. Her talk was entitled "Blood, Sweat and Fears". In murder cases blood is the main evidence, sweat is the hard work involved in trying to solve the case and fear is of what you may be exposed to when investigating. Most of Mary's career was working at the London Laboratory in Lambeth. Mary let us know that forensic science is difficult and mundane (not as glamorous as portrayed on CSI). No assumptions can be made. You must be meticulous and tenacious and work as part of a team. She loved it. At the crime scene blood will be looked for on clothing and the surrounding area. The shape of the blood splatter and the direction is noted. (Mary produced a claw hammer to illustrate, we had to imagine the assault taking place!) Sellotape was used to pick up any evidence (like hairs and fibers) on the clothing. At the beginning of her career very little protective clothing was used but since 2003 and the use of new DNA technology, the forensic scientist to prevent leaving DNA at the scene wears a coverall, 2 pairs of gloves, a face mask and boots. This is where the sweat comes in! These days the DNA technology is used on blood, semen, saliva and skin cells. There are 6.5 million DNA profiles on the database. The scientist reading the test results must be skillful at interpretation to get an accurate result. A good forensic scientist will help to interpret events, corroborate witness accounts and facilitate the line of questions for the police when they are interviewing suspects. Mary then talked about how she and her team worked on 2 well known murder cases: Lin and Meghan Russell in Kent and Stephen Lawrence in London. She took us through each investigation and how the evidence was examined and then re-examined as the DNA techniques became more advanced. Fascinating to hear. Mary was also a forensic consultant on the first series of "Silent Witness". She said that the TV production team didn't listen to her advice but made the portrayal of forensics much more dramatic than it is! We thanked Mary for entertaining us, the time flew by.



Our October meeting will be on the 16th at 7:15pm. Our speaker will be Andy Malcolm from the Fishermen's Mission, his talk "The True Cost of Fish". All are welcome.

LV



## **New Winter Schedule** for monthly W.I. meetings



November 20th **2.30 pm** AGM

December 18th **7.15 pm** End of Year celebration, with live music, mulled wine and buffet.

January 15th **2.30 pm** meeting content to be arranged.

February 19th New Year Meal. Venue TBA.

These meeting times have been rearranged in response to discussions with W.I. members. We hope these new meeting times will be supported.

**New members always welcome.**



## Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal 2024

This year the Poppy Appeal is launched on the 24<sup>th</sup> October.

Poppies and other items will be available from several sites over Middleton:

The Church – Please put any donations in the wall safe **inside** the Church.

The Middleton Bell

Village Hall

Middleton Primary School

If anybody cannot visit one of these places, we would be happy to deliver your request.

❖ Wearing a poppy shows support for all those who lost their lives on active service, from the beginning of the First World War right up to present day. It honours the contribution of civilian services and the uniformed services which contribute to national peace and security and acknowledges innocent civilians who have lost their lives in conflict and acts of terrorism.

❖ We have been asked about Purple poppies: These are used to represent the sacrifice animals have and do make. They are not affiliated to the RBL, but charities led by Murphy's Army and War Horse Memorial can be contacted here: <https://theyalsoserved.org/> or <https://thewarhorsememorial.org/purple-poppy-appeal/>

❖ The RBL have produced plastic-free poppies, these will be available alongside remaining stocks of the current poppy to reduce any waste of poppies already produced. Poppies containing single-use plastic can be returned to [Sainsbury's](#) stores for recycling after the Poppy Appeal.

❖ There are six national Fields of Remembrance. Chris represents the Home Guard Association every year at the private opening service of Westminster Abbey's Field, which has been organised by The Poppy Factory since 1928.

Wearing our poppies with pride – Jackie 648621, Rebecca and Chris 07777689428

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### A November date for your diaries...

Following a break for the summer we are happy to announce the third



### Pop-up Brunch

**Sunday 17 November, 10-11.45am**

**Holy Trinity Church**

And, for any of us who may have missed these and are wondering what they are about, they began with a desire to make more use of our lovely old church and, wondering how to complement and collaborate with the other good things going on in the village, realising that we were missing having somewhere - in walking distance - to read the papers, solve a crossword, maybe catch up with a friend while enjoying coffee and a sausage roll or something sweet on a Sunday morning...

So please join us if you can

Any time between 10 and 11.45am - leaving you free to saunter over to the pub when it opens at midday if you choose, or home for lunch...

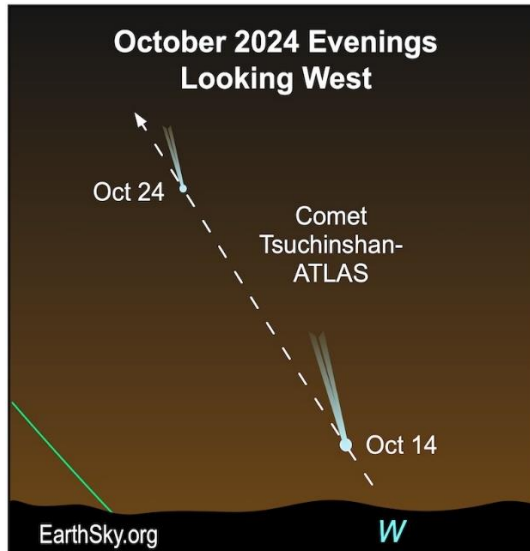
If you have any questions about this event, please contact Amanda Taylor: 07990 602 563 or [ajt.opom@gmail.com](mailto:ajt.opom@gmail.com) or Camilla Sim: 07740 427414 or [camillasim9@gmail.com](mailto:camillasim9@gmail.com)

## Middleton Dark Skies

### October Highlights

**Planets on View.** **Venus** is all but invisible in the western sky as it sets just after 7 PM, although a pair of binoculars should pick it out in the twilight. The crescent moon will be visible just below Venus on the 5<sup>th</sup>, but again best seen through binoculars. **Jupiter** rises at around 8.30 PM, out towards the NE, and will appear quite brilliant as it sits between the horns of the Taurus (the Bull) constellation. **Mars** follows Jupiter into the sky at around 11.00 PM sitting in the constellation of Gemini. Towards the end of the month Mars will line up with the stars Castor and Pollux, that represent the heads of the twins Castor and Pollux from both Greek and Roman myth. **Saturn** is almost directly south this month and is well placed for viewing from 9.00 PM onwards, about 45° above the horizon.

**Constellations** This month's constellation is Taurus, the Bull. This is one of the oldest constellations in the sky, having been imagined as a bull by many civilizations, dating as far back as 3000 BCE. The most prominent part of the constellation is the head, which is formed out of a triangle of 5 stars, the (very long) horns of another 3 and the remainder of the body, depending on culture, up to another 6. During October it rises in the NE at around 8.30 PM and should be relatively easy to spot because, as mentioned above, the planet Jupiter is sitting between the stars that make up the horns. Although not really recognised as part of Taurus, it is worth looking out for the star cluster Pleiades, which is one of only a few visible to the naked eye. It consists of 7 main stars that are visible to the naked eye, although generally only 6 can be made out. A pair of binoculars or a small telescope will certainly show the 7 stars and also the more than 1000 that make up the entire cluster.



**Taurus and the Pleiades Cluster**

**Comet Tsuchinshan ATLAS (hopefully!)**

**The Moon** The moon this month is known as the Hunters Moon, as this was the time of year when wild boar and deer were at the fattest after feeding all summer. With the moon also being so bright, hunting at night was made that much easier. Its another Supermoon this month, and this time it will be closer to the earth than at any other full moon this year. Full moon occurs on the 17<sup>th</sup>.

**Meteor Showers** The Draconid shower peaks on the 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>, and although it doesn't produce a great number of meteors, it does occur in the evening and is practically overhead. Unfortunately the Orionids meteor shower on the 21/22 will be badly effected by the moonlight, so will not be its usual spectacle.

**Comets** Comet Tsuchinshan-ATLAS has seemingly survived its closest approach to the sun and is heading back out from behind it and will be best observed from the 12<sup>th</sup> about an hour after sunset. It will be low in the western sky just to the right of the setting Venus. Best viewed with binoculars, but not before sunset! As always with comets, its impossible to predict just how bright it will be, so fingers crossed on that one. It will get higher in the sky as the evenings go on, but it will also dim as it gets further away from the Earth.

Brian Near

### Middleton Community Council Young Person Bursary

Are you a young person under 18 with a hobby or interest you'd like to pursue but need a little financial boost to get started or buy a piece of equipment for instance? Perhaps we can help. Contact Trish for more information [tricia.cooke1@btopenworld.com](mailto:tricia.cooke1@btopenworld.com)

# HOLY TRINITY – MIDDLETON CUM FORDLEY

## Church Services during October

Sunday 6 October

10am Benefice Service with Holy Communion

Sunday 27 October

11am Holy Communion

*Middleton are hosting the Benefice service this month on  
Sunday 6 October at 10am*

*Please come along to a service and ...  
the church is always open if you wish to pause, ponder, play the piano or pray...*

**A display of abundance at Holy Trinity Harvest Festival - thank you!**



## THE AUTUMN CONCERT

**Reiko Fujisawa: Piano Trio Concert at Holy Trinity Church, Middleton  
3pm Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> October**

A quick reminder to contact Paul Taylor ASAP if you would like tickets for this event (for details see July's newsletter). There are a few tickets remaining so do please get in touch soon if you would like to reserve any.



Ticket prices are set simply to cover costs (not least hiring and moving a Steinway piano – and once again we are hugely grateful to our own Graham Cooke for him offering his considerable expertise in tuning it for Reiko!) and are available for just £17.50. These can be reserved by emailing Paul on [taylspaul@gmail.com](mailto:taylspaul@gmail.com). Paul will then contact you with payment details. Tickets will be allocated on a strictly first-come-first-served basis. We look forward to seeing you there...

## **Holy Dusters**

New dusters always welcome, of all faiths and none

16 October: Trish and Graham  
6 November: Rob Buxton.

23 October: Val and Camilla  
20 November: Paul and Amanda

## Thought for the month:

‘If you love your neighbour, you will fulfil the requirements of God’s law.’ Romans 13:8

## October Nature Notes

You might think that leaf fall and the autumn colours are a consequence of the colder, rougher weather at this time of the year, and that leaves drop because of damage to the plants or old age. Actually the plant itself causes the leaf fall in preparation for winter.

During the growing season, leaves provide for the plant through the process of photosynthesis. This is a chemical reaction between chlorophyll, water, and carbon dioxide, plus sunlight to provide glucose and oxygen. The plant uses glucose as food, a building block for growth. Lower autumn temperatures and shorter day length slow the process of photosynthesis down so that there is little gain in the winter months for the tree by having the leaves remaining. In fact remaining leaves become liabilities since they allow water loss and leaf damage can be a point of entry for disease organisms. In response to the breakdown of chlorophyll, layers of cells at the base of the leaf (abscission layer) begin form, cutting off fluids and food to the leaf. The veins of the leaf become clogged and trap sugars. Once the layer has completely formed, the leaf can be detached by freezing, wind, water, or even gentle breezes. Before the detachment, useful minerals are extracted, and even waste substances can be dumped into the leaf. The leaves then fall and slowly decay on the ground where they provide nutrients for the soil and food for various soil organisms. Records reveal that for most species of tree it takes about a month from the first leaf fall until it is bare.

There are two types of pigments in leaves that provide autumn colours. Carotenoids produce yellow, orange, and brown colours. These colours are masked by chlorophyll, which gives leaves their green colour but they are in the plant cell membranes all the time. Anthocyanins create red and purple colours - they are produced in the cell sap when sugars accumulate in the leaves. If the sap is acidic, the colour is red; if the sap is less acidic, the colour is purple.



Autumn's display is more or less vibrant depending on the weather. To get the most brilliant autumn colours, a dry summer followed by dry, sunny autumn days with cold, but not freezing, nights is needed. Although the production of new chlorophyll stops during the autumn, photosynthesis can still occur on sunny autumn days using up the remaining chlorophyll in the leaves. This causes the sugar concentration to increase, and more anthocyanin is produced – turning the leaves redder. During cold nights, low temperatures destroy the chlorophyll in the leaves, and this causes the leaf to fade to yellow. If the temperatures overnight stay above freezing then anthocyanin production is enhanced and the leaves take on a red colour but during dry spells, sugars become concentrated in the leaves, which means more anthocyanin is produced and the leaves turn redder. On the other hand cloudy and rainy autumn days lead to muted autumn colours. As a result of the warming climate we now have to wait longer for all this to happen with leaf fall occurring ten days later than thirty years ago.

Peter Vincent

# Middleton Primary School

Taking in year Admissions for all year groups  
(Reception- Year 6)

**Consortium**  
Develop • Create • Engage



## Upcoming Open Days for Prospect Reception Starters 2025/26

3rd October 2024 9am-11:30am

21st November 2024 1:30pm-3pm

16th January 2025 4-5:30pm

*Alternatively contact us to arrange a visit  
to our school for in year admissions.*

📞 01728 648 251

📍 Middleton Primary School, Rectory Road,  
IP17 3NR

✉ office.middleton@consortiumtrust.org.uk

This half term Middleton Primary School welcomed the fantastic performers: 'Open the Book' to deliver an interactive show retelling a well-known story. The children enjoyed participating in the show and mesmerising their peers with their acting abilities.



This week in Ash Class, we have been learning about First Aid and what to do when someone gets injured or feels unwell. The children demonstrated how kind, caring and empathetic they are.



Spruce Class have been reading the book Hidden Figures, The True Story of Four Black Women and The Space Race. As part of this they learnt the word 'trajectory;' to enhance their understanding they combined their maths and science knowledge to create a model rocket and then test out the flight paths taken by launching at different trajectories. They had great fun and showed wonderful determination and curiosity.

## Middleton Pavilion



For your relaxation, parties and sports events  
Contact: Middletonpavilion@gmail.com

Facebook icon Middleton Pavilion, Suffolk

## **MIDDLETON CUM FORDLEY PARISH COUNCIL**

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON  
TUESDAY 10 September 2024 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 [parishclerkmiddleton@gmail.com](mailto:parishclerkmiddleton@gmail.com)".

### **1 Attendance and Apologies**

#### **Attendees:**

Cllr Julian Cusack  
Cllr Lesley Taylor  
Cllr Graham Lacey  
Cllr Giles Piercy  
Cllr Charles Macdowell  
Cllr Chris Reynolds  
Cllr Michelle Kendall  
Cllr Steve Thorpe

#### **Apologies:**

Cllr Kathryn Rowe

#### **In attendance:**

Rachael Salcombe – Parish Clerk  
District Cllr Sarah Whitelock (7pm-7.35pm)  
Members of the public x 4

### **2 Councillors' Declarations of Interest. None.**

**3 Public Forum.** A member of the public, new to the village, has offered to refurbish and maintain the village noticeboards. This was accepted by all as a good idea. Dist. Cllr Whitelock advised that a grant may be available and to apply to ESC. Cllr Cusack confirmed that £200 would be available from the PC. The noticeboard on the Moor is locked, keys are held by two Moor residents and the clerk.

A member of the public referred to July's minutes, in particular the Moor and reiterated that the residents would like to see a member of the parish council at their meetings. This was acknowledged, along with a reminder that funding is available for the Moor Management Group to assist in managing the moor. It was also mentioned that the burial ground, village green and Moor are looking untidy. Cllr Cusack confirmed that he will arrange for the cutting of the hedge that faces out onto the highway. **Action: Cllr Cusack to arrange for cutting of the hedge at the burial ground.**

A member of the public addressed the village green maintenance and was advised that volunteers are still being sought to cut the grass. The previous arrangement 'fell through' when the Village Green Group disbanded. Cllr Cusack offered to cut the grass as a stop-gap measure, but it was agreed that a long-term solution was needed. Cllr Piercy also offered to cut the grass, whilst an alternative is sought.

A member of the public questioned two donations made recently by the PC (Lighthouse Women's Aid and Yoxmere Fisherman) and enquired after their legality, it was confirmed by the Chair that both donations sit within the Powers of the PC.

Dist. Cllr Whitelock reported on the Council's plans for services to increase the range and volume of products which can be recycled by households. This is to meet new nationwide 'Simpler Recycling' requirements by 31 March 2026. This includes a weekly food waste collection, which is to be introduced across the county in the Spring of 2026. Suffolk has the potential to divert over 58% of waste from rubbish bins to other recycling and organic waste collections. Once final decisions are made a comprehensive public engagement and communications campaign to inform and explain the changes to residents will be carried out.

Cllr Whitelock also reported that community groups, voluntary organisations, and town and parish councils are being invited to apply for funding, available through two winter grant schemes. Grants will again be available for 'Warm Welcomes' to provide somewhere safe, warm and welcoming for people who may be struggling to meet the cost of living. Cllr Taylor advised the meeting that she has been in touch with ESC regarding Warm Welcomes but, unfortunately, the commitment required, in terms of time, is unachievable for Middleton. Cllr Taylor is, however, in the process of putting together a 'cross organisation' group working together in the village to offer a community hub (see Minute 13 below).

### **4 Minutes**

- a) The Council approved the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 9 July 2024. The Council approved the minutes from the Extraordinary Meetings that took place on 5 and 21 August 2021.

b) Matters arising and Action Points

- \* Three contractors have been invited to provide a quote for works to the village path approach to the Church. Cllr Lacey has arranged to meet on site with East Coast Landscapes and Nice Touch Landscapes. Salter Landscaping have not replied to the invitation.
- \* The Asset Register has been reviewed, with minor changes; 1) the removal of the filing cabinet, 2) Update of laptop, 3) removal of speed indicator, 4) inclusion of 4 new picnic tables and 5) note added to reflect the cableway is not in use. **Action: Clerk to update Asset Register and replace existing on village website.**
- \* 'No parking' signs for the village green – c/f

**5 Sizewell C and other Energy Projects**

Cllr Macdowell reported that:

- The 30mph speed limit will have permanent signage by the end of the year.
- New Mill Lane signage (cars coming out of Mill Lane onto the B1122) will trigger a sign indicating that a car is pulling out (both directions). This will also be in place by the end of the year.
- Average speed cameras will be operational in Q1 2025.
- Work on Darsham Park and Ride roundabout will start in Q1 2025. Construction on the P&R site itself will start in Q2.
- Before the end of this year archaeological and ecological surveys will be conducted on and around the Yoxford roundabout, the Sizewell Link Road and the main roundabout between Theberton and Leiston (representing the main access site onto SZC).
- Work will take place next year on the level crossings at Darsham and Leiston, which will, at times, be closed. There will be 3 SZC trains per day passing through Leiston, until the rail spur is completed. Parking for all rail users will be made available on the Darsham Park and Ride, as well as SZC staff. Concerns over safety crossing the A12 was raised but there has been no mention of a footbridge provided. The East Suffolk line will not run for 9 days in May 2025, for various SZC upgrading works.
- In an effort to become further informed about the Sizewell Link Road, Yoxford, Kelsale, Theberton and Middleton PCs have agreed to join forces with a view to inviting SZC staff, particularly engineers, to attend meetings. It is hoped that more will be achieved in a focused setting, rather than at the large general forums.
- SZB has an outage starting in October which will result in an increase in traffic.

AEPA (Anglian Energy Partnerships Alliance), an informal group of town and parish councils, were eager to have a face-to-face meeting with representatives from the government, following a written invitation. Lord Hunt, the Minister of State for Energy Security and Net Zero came to SZC in August for a photo opportunity, with neither SCC, ESC nor AEPA being informed of the visit. AEPA have written again, voicing their disappointment. Middleton PC were invited, and agreed, to sign up as a member of this group.

Cllr Macdowell is unavailable for the next three SZC forums. Cllr Taylor agreed to attend the Community Forum on 9 October at High Lodge and Cllr Lacey agreed to attend the Northern Transport Forum on Wednesday 6 November at Darsham. Cllr Thorpe to confirm whether he can attend the MDS Forum on Tuesday 15 October in Leiston.

**6 Councillors Reports**

- a) Village Hall. Cllr Thorpe shared a report advising of the new windows and doors, and appropriate use thereof. This information is also available in the September village newsletter.
- b) Middleton Primary School. No report.
- c) Highways, footpaths and trees. Cllr Thorpe reported that The Nook at the end of Fletchers Lane is set to be demolished (planning application approved by the PC). A resident has voiced concern regarding access to his land whilst the road is temporarily closed to deliver new-build materials. Cllr Piercy offered to investigate and will advise Cllr Thorpe, who will, in turn, advise the resident. **Action: Cllr Piercy to seek further information regarding temporary road closure of Fletchers Lane.**
- d) Middleton Moor. Cllr Taylor has been in touch with Peter Frizzle and confirmed that all is on schedule for pond works. It was noted that the 'No Parking' signs are yet to be erected. A member of the Moor Management Group advised that this will be done once grass cutting has been completed. A request was made that the signs are erected opposite the nursing home as soon as possible, due to archaeological workers on Little Moor Lane parking on the Moor.

Cllr Cusack proposed, and it was agreed, that the PC contribute £200 to the Summer Winers (from the Middleton Moor fund), for the work that they carry out on the Moor. **Action: Clerk to make payment.**

A member of the public advised that the driveway to Moor House is subsiding, and that the resident would like the Moor Management Group to take appropriate action (all driveways belong to the Moor). Cllr Lacey offered to assess the condition of the driveway. **Action: Cllr Lacey to visit Moor House to inspect driveway.**

A question was asked regarding the village green grass and whether the Summer Winers would be prepared to cut it. A member of the public offered to make enquiries.

e) **Causeway Farm.** The farm will be lotted up and the house will be sold separately. Agricultural land will be sold off to the highest bidder. There is the potential for further development along Back Road, furthermore SCC are in discussions with an existing care farm about potentially running one at Causeway Farm. Cllr Thorpe has been in discussions with SWT, who are meeting with SCC tomorrow, to discuss their potential involvement. MPC are interested in buying Hastoe Field for a picnic/rewilding area, with the 10 acres eventually connecting to the existing playing field. It is unlikely that SCC will sell the field to MPC at a discounted rate, the cost is anticipated to be £100,000 for the field alone. There are funds available, including the SZC Community Fund which would represent our most realistic opportunity. The likelihood of this venture being realised relies on the PC producing a plan, informed and influenced by everyone in the village.

Cllr Cusack took the opportunity to advise the meeting that SZC Community Fund have reacted positively towards the PC's possible purchase of Hastoe Field, following the sale of Causeway Farm. This would also include funding for works carried out on the land following purchase. The purchase and development plans meet with SZC's acknowledgment of the need to replace access to open spaces.

## **7 Finance**

- a) The latest financial position was received and accepted by all.
- b) Bank reconciliation for Q1 was approved.
- c) The following payment was authorised.

Details	Payee	Amount	Power
Microsoft 365 Annual Subscription (ratify)	Rachael Salcombe	£79.99	LGA 1972 s. 111

**8 Planning Applications.** For ease of locating, it was agreed to make planning application meeting dates available on the village website as a separate entity. **Action: Clerk to create a new section of the village website for planning application meeting dates.**

**9 Village Path approach to Church.** See matters arising above.

**10 Review of Asset Register.** See matters arising above.

**11 Flooding/Maintenance/Emergency Plan.** Cllr Cusack provided the meeting with a draft Local Risk Assessment and Proposed Local Responses document created in September 2016. Cllrs Cusack and Piercy will meet to update the document. Cllrs Cusack and Piercy to attend the Emergency Planning Workshop in Lowestoft on Friday 25 October. **Action: Clerk to i) book two places on the workshop and ii) arrange a suitable date for Cllrs Cusack and Piercy to meet after the workshop to review/update the village plan.**

Information regarding a nuclear emergency will also need to be included in the plan. Cllr Macdowell confirmed that information regarding a nuclear emergency has recently been updated by Suffolk County Council; see Suffolk Resilience, on their website. Trials in 'area' text messaging have also been carried out. It was agreed that the PC need to produce a plan for such an event and may start by seeking copies of the updated leaflet.

**12 Change of MPC Meeting Day.** It was agreed to change the meeting day from Tuesday to Wednesday, commencing 13 November 2024. **Action: Clerk to advise Richard Turner and Barbara Barker and put notice on village website.**

It was also agreed to hold a PC meeting in January 2025 due to the workload.

**13 Funding/Grant Opportunities.** Over the past three years Cllr Taylor has obtained various grants to run coffee mornings, lunches and Middleton Meals. Unfortunately, funding cannot be repeated, despite the success of these events. To obtain further grants, the PC will need to consider another venture. Working together as a village to provide a Community Hub was suggested (to possibly include the WI, Church, Village Hall Committee and the Community Council). This would allow the PC to fulfil the criteria for a grant and thus provide a warm, social setting. It is also hoped to incorporate prescription filling, collection of medication, sign posting to CAB, shopping, hot meals, delivery of hot meals, as part of the Hub experience. It was agreed by all that it is a good idea. **Action: Clerk to liaise with Cllr Taylor with a view to inviting the abovementioned organisations to a meeting to discuss further.**

**14 Correspondence.** It was agreed to purchase a wreath for the poppy appeal, at a cost of £20. **Action: Clerk to confirm the order.**

A lack of public transport in the village has been brought to the PC’s attention and it was agreed that public transport for the village should be made more readily available. A member of the public informed the meeting of a group called Agnes (Aldeburgh Good Neighbours Scheme), a flourishing volunteer group who provide both transport to hospital and food deliveries. It is thought that there is currently an informal service available for Middleton residents. Following discussion, it was agreed to determine interest via the village newsletter, followed by the setting up of a WhatsApp Group, if the need is there. In the meantime, a member of the public offered to contact Agnes and will feed back to Cllr Taylor. **Action: Cllr Taylor to write an article for the village newsletter to determine interest.**

Cllr Taylor has agreed to take Cllr Cusack’s place in representing Middleton at the ESC Community Partnership meetings. For context, each partnership consists of East Suffolk Councillors, together with key partners from Town and Parish Councils, County Council, Police, Health, businesses, voluntary organisations, community groups and youth representatives. Everyone works collaboratively to solve local problems identified by local people and make a difference on the ground in our communities. **Action: Cllr Cusack to send Agenda/details to Cllr Taylor.**

**15 Items for Next Agenda**

**16 Next Meeting.** The date and time of the next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday 8 October 2024, at 7pm, at the Village Hall. The meeting closed at 8:40pm.

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**MIDDLETON CUM FORDLEY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING AS SOLE TRUSTEE OF  
THE MIDDLETON RECREATION GROUND TRUST  
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 10 SEPTEMBER 2024  
AT 8.40pm AT THE VILLAGE HALL**

- 1

**Attendance and Apologies**

**Attendees:**  
Cllr Julian Cusack  
Cllr Lesley Taylor  
Cllr Graham Lacey  
Cllr Charles Macdowell  
Cllr Giles Piercy  
Cllr Chris Reynolds  
Cllr Steve Thorpe  
Cllr Michelle Kendall

**Apologies:**  
Cllr Kathryn Rowe  
  
**In attendance:**  
Rachael Salcombe - Clerk  
Members of the public x 4
- 2

**To receive declarations of interest and to consider requests for dispensations.** None.
- 3

**Minutes**

a) Minutes approved of Trustee Meeting held on 9 July 2024.

b) Matters Arising. Exposed matting has been fixed. Protruding screws have been removed from the train. It was agreed not to pursue the dangerous dog issue, given there had been no further reported incidents.
- 4

**To review Safety Inspection Report.** July and August reports approved.
- 5

**Correspondence.** The current playground inspector has written to the PC confirming his retirement, with August being the final inspection. Support was given for the Chair to write a thank you, on the PC’s behalf, for the service provided over the years. In the meantime, Cllr Kendall has kindly agreed to carry out the inspections and will liaise with Cllr Cusack, as necessary. **Action: Cllr Cusack to write a thank you letter and provide Cllr Kendall with playground check sheet. Action: Clerk to seek a new playground inspector.**

Brian Barker was thanked for changing the lights in the pavilion.
- 6

**Matters for discussion**

Survey Update - c/f

Sizewell C Grant – Adult Exercise Equipment. Cllr Kendall provided the Clerk with a quotation for outdoor gym equipment and advised the meeting that enquiries have been made with SZC Community Fund for the purchase thereof. It was agreed to raise this again at October’s meeting, following further feedback from the village survey.

Fletchers Lane Tree Surgery – The trees on the recreation ground side have been trimmed. The Sycamore branches overhanging Fletchers Lane have been removed. The hedge on the other side of Fletchers Lane is growing out but it was felt that it is not in the way of the dustcarts.

It was suggested that the Pavilion Manager provide the PC with a report/update and that accounts be kept specific to the hiring of the pavilion.

7 Finance

The following payments were authorised.

| Details                                | Payee            | Amount  | Power      |
|----------------------------------------|------------------|---------|------------|
| Pedal bin liners                       | Rebecca Reynolds | £2.35   | 1972 s.137 |
| Batteries (The Factory Shop)           | Rebecca Reynolds | £7.00   | 1972 s.137 |
| Bathroom Ceiling Lights x 2            | Rebecca Reynolds | £35.68  | 1972 s.137 |
| Rubber walkway mat, 5 locks and labour | Gerry Jackson    | £102.02 | 1972 s.137 |
| Insurance Renewal                      | CAS Ltd          | £345.43 | 1972 s.111 |
| Play Inspections, April – August inc.  | David Bracey     | £300.00 | 1976 s. 19 |

The purchase of a janitor’s cupboard for the pavilion was discussed and a budget of £200 was agreed. Action: Cllr Taylor to liaise with the Pavilion Manager regarding the purchase thereof.

Authorisation was given for the payment of £74.24 to Cllr Kendall for the train refurbishment.

8 Items for the next Agenda.

9 Next Meeting. Date of next meeting Tuesday 8 October 2024, to follow Parish Council meeting. Meeting closed at 9pm.

////////////////////////////////////

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Middleton carpet bowls club long box surplus to requirements if anyone would like it perhaps for shed or garage storage? It’s about 6/7 feet long . Last chance or it will need to be broken up. Contact Barbara to view.



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### Local artist

Paul is a British artist who paints primarily in oils. Currently based in London and Middleton, he also has connections to Jersey. [paulpodhorskiart.com](http://paulpodhorskiart.com) shows a selection of Paul's pictures. New images are uploaded as they are completed. Paul is happy to discuss commissions.

[paul.podhorski@btinternet.com](mailto:paul.podhorski@btinternet.com)



## DIARY DATES 2024

### October

Thursday 3rd "Squit Night" – live music at The Bell – from **8pm**  
Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> Benefice Service with Holy Communion **10am**  
Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> Parish Council Meeting , Village Hall, **7pm**  
Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> MCC Autumn Fair, Bell Meadow, **12 – 3pm**  
Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> WI – Village Hall – 'The True Cost of Fish', Andy Malcolm ~The Fishermen's Mission  
Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> Reiko Fujisawa: Piano Trio Concert at Holy Trinity Church, **3pm**  
Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> Holy Communion **11am**

### November

Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> "Squit Night" – live music at The Bell – from **8pm**  
Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> Parish Council Meeting , Village Hall, **7pm**  
Friday 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Village Hall Quiz, **7pm**  
Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> 'Pop-up' Brunch, Holy Trinity Church **10-11.45 am**  
Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> WI – Village Hall - AGM **2.30pm**

### December

Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> "Squit Night" – live music at The Bell – from **8pm**  
Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> Illustrated talk on Dickens and Scrooge by Mark Mitchels. Holy Trinity **7pm**  
Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> "Santa Boules" tournament – Playing Field, **10.am**  
Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> Parish Council Meeting , Village Hall, **7pm**  
Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> MCC Christmas Party –Village Hall  
Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> WI–Village Hall - End Year Celebrations. Martin & Annie ~ Sizewell Gap- **7.15pm**  
Friday 20<sup>th</sup> Carol Service, Holy Trinity, **6pm**  
Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> Midnight Mass, Holy Trinity, **11.15pm**

## 2025

### January

Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> WI – Village Hall **2.30pm**

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