

**MIDDLETON CUM FORDLEY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING AS SOLE TRUSTEE OF
THE MIDDLETON RECREATION GROUND TRUST**
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 8 OCTOBER 2024
AT 8.10pm AT THE VILLAGE HALL

1 Attendance and Apologies

Attendees:

Cllr Lesley Taylor
Cllr Giles Piercy
Cllr Chris Reynolds
Cllr Steve Thorpe
Cllr Kathryn Rowe

Apologies:

Cllr Julian Cusack
Cllr Graham Lacey
Cllr Charles Macdowell
Cllr Michele Kendall

In attendance:

Rachael Salcombe - Clerk
Members of the public x 3

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

3 Minutes

- a) Minutes approved of Trustee Meeting held on 10 September 2024.
- b) Matters Arising.
 - A Thank you letter has been written to David Bracey.
 - Cllr Cusack to provide Cllr Kendall with playground check sheet – in hand.
 - Clerk to seek a new playground inspector – see below.
 - Cllr Taylor to liaise with the Pavilion Manager regarding the purchase of a janitor's cupboard c/f.

4 To review Safety Inspection Report. No report provided.

5 Correspondence.

A request has been made to use the recreation ground for D of E camping, this would include use of the toilets and kitchen facilities. The request was agreed. **Action: Cllr Taylor to advise accordingly and erect a notice to advise users of the recreation ground.**

A thank you was given to the Summer Winners for filling the potholes in the car park and to Bill from Bentwaters for the supply of materials, free of charge.

6 Matters for discussion

Playground Inspector. The Clerk reported that contact has been made with Yoxford, Kelsale and Theberton Parish Councils. Yoxford – David Bracey, Kelsale – Play Inspections and Theberton – ROSPA Play Safety.

Play Inspections offer one annual inspection and three operational inspections, each costing £225, totalling £900 for four inspections per annum.

ROSPA Play Safety only offer an annual inspection costing £80 to inspect up to 5 items.

Further quotes were sought from Certified Playground Inspections and Playground Inspector but are yet to be received. **Action: Clerk to refer to insurance documentation to establish inspection requirements, in particular quantity per annum.**

Survey. Cllr Rowe provided the meeting with a summary of responses and specific comments/suggestions. Issues raised included play equipment, additional initiatives/further investments, education and wellbeing, a secure dog area and a wildlife/nature area. Improved pedestrian and vehicular access were also raised. The idea of allotments was suggested and favourably received by the PC. This facility could be offered to the school and potential care farm.

Action: Cllr Rowe to write a thank you to all who responded and an update for the newsletter.

It was agreed that proposals for the recreation ground need to be linked-in with the purchase of Hastoe Field, which will be accessed from the recreation ground, thus becoming one large area.

The PC were pleased with the response from the village. Next steps will include putting costs together for the various proposed changes/updates.

Action: Cllr Rowe to seek ballpark figures for the suggested initiatives.

A question was raised as to whether CIL may be used towards the improvements to the recreation ground.

Action: Clerk to confirm whether CIL money may be used for this purpose.

The quantity of bins was raised again, including dog bins. Upon previous enquiries, it is understood that ESC is currently undertaking a bin survey. New bins (purchased out of the Precept) would need to be justified to ESC. **Action:** Clerk to contact ESC regarding purchase of new bins.

Cllr Thorpe provided the meeting with a concept for Hastoe Field, which may be used as an aid in the development of the area.

Sizewell C Grant – Adult Exercise Equipment c/f

It was noted that the Pavilion Manager role has finished for the year (April – September). However, a booking has since been received for the Pavilion, and it was agreed to pay the Pavilion Manager for this work.

7 Finance

The following payments were authorised.

Details	Payee	Amount	Power
Refuse Sacks (Westleton Village Stores)	Rebecca Reynolds	£1.99	1972 s.137
Key Cutting (Screwbolt Fixing Ltd)	Rebecca Reynolds	£5.90	1972 s.137

Authorisation was given for the payment of £39.60 to EPS Transfers for three signs and train face.

8 Items for the next Agenda.

9 Next Meeting. Date of next meeting Wednesday 13 November 2024, to follow Parish Council meeting.

Meeting closed at 8.45pm.