Thank you Mr Mayor for the opportunity to report to the Council the latest developments on various matters relating to the Middleton Township.

Township Committee

Middleton Township Committee Meeting took place on Thursday 13th June 2019. This was our first Township Committee in the new municipal year.

Members appointed me as Township Chair, for the second year, and for this I am very grateful to be entrusted with this role. Councillor Susan Smith was again appointed as Vice Chair of Middleton Township Committee for the 2019/20 Municipal Year.

Members received two questions to be heard during the Open Forum, including:
- A question from a resident of East Ward relating to crime and ASB on Andover Avenue
- A question in regards to speeding on Joshua Lane and in particular under the railway bridge.
- A number of residents attended the Committee to raise concerns regarding the report rom Highways in relation to objections to a Traffic Regulation Order – Evesham Road, Walsingham Avenue, Tenbury Drive and Hanley Close.

The minutes of the previous Middleton Township Committee and Middleton Township Devolved Funding and Services Sub-Committee were approved by Members and received the following reports
- Neighbourhood Planning – Designation of the proposed Thornham St. John’s Neighbourhood Area and Forum
- Objections to a Traffic Regulation Order – Evesham Road, Walsingham Avenue, Tenbury Drive and Hanley Close.
- Middleton Township Funds Review

Township Sub-Committees and Working Parties

The cycle of sub-committees took place in this quarter, and some of the issues raised are detailed below:

Devolved Funding and Devolved Services Sub-Committee

This meeting took place on Wednesday 10th July 2019, and a number of applications were considered including:
- Bowlee Pavilion Office Start Up Grant
- Bowlee Boulder Cleaning
- Snowdrops and Bluebells around Historic Cheapside
- Functional Fitness Course
- Start Up Grant – Friends of Alkrington Woods
- Middleton Gardens Shrub Beds
• Peach Bank – Prohibition of Driving
• Stanycliffe Lane – No Waiting Restrictions
• Birch Fountain and Horse Trough Relocation
• Glenwood Drive Street Lighting
• Lighthouse Project – New events/Conference room equipment
• Motorbike Prohibitions – Don Street, Middleton
• Pedestrian Dropped crossing points Wood Street, Middleton
• Middleton Town Centre Management Function including Christmas Lights Event 2019

Members were also advised of a number of delegated decisions made during the last quarter, which included;
• Sherbourne Road Bollards
• Artwork for Display in Middleton Library
• Wince Brook Access Improvements
• Flags for IDAHOBIT
• Fit, Read & Feed 2019 Rucksacks for West Ward
• Stuart Street Signage

Regeneration
The Middleton Regeneration Group met on Wednesday 19\textsuperscript{th} June 2019 and discussed a number of items including;
• Junction 19 Link Road/ South Heywood
• Lodge Street/ Morton St & 24 Steps
• Derelict Buildings
• Warwick Mill

Members were disappointed that there have been some ongoing issues around ‘Urban Explorers’ visiting some of our most historic buildings. Unfortunately the group have caused some damage at one of the oldest buildings in Middleton and we will continue to work with colleagues to prevent any further damage and trespass.

Middleton Environment & Culture Forum
The Middleton Environment & Culture Forum met on Wednesday 10\textsuperscript{th} July 2019 and discussed a number of items including;
• Street Cleaning, Waste Clean & Green work
• Transport Issues
• Link4Life – Middleton Arena

Updates were also received from a number of local groups including;
• Friends of Jubilee Park
• Friends of Wince Brook
• Absolute Angling

Police & Councillor Briefing
Middleton Members met during the first Municipal quarter on Thursday 4\textsuperscript{th} July 2019, and once again we are very pleased with the ongoing working relationship that we have with our police colleagues. The GMP Neighbourhood Team continues to work tirelessly to prevent and respond to all types of crime. To echo my previous statements, a huge thank you to our Police colleagues here in
News Stories

Mayday 2019
The Mayday 2019 took place on Monday 6th May and as in previous years we were very lucky that the weather was kind to us. The event was very well attended and once again St. Michael's Brass Band provided a fantastic performance in the bandstand in Jubilee Park.

The Morris Men weren't in attendance this year, but the crowd rallied together and I'm sure some people enjoyed watching myself and Liz McInnes alongside others doing our best to replicate the usual Morris Men and dancing around the Maypole!

There were stalls, singers and food. Special thanks must go to Middleton Roundtable for organising another fantastic May Day Event.

Middleton In Bloom
Middleton in Bloom is working closely with colleagues in Environmental Management and judging took place on Monday 15th July 2019. As yet we do not know the outcome of the judging and we are very excited with hopes that we will follow the previous year’s successes. In 2017, which was our first year of entry we received a Silver award and last year due to the excellent work of the team we received a Silver-gilt award.

Here is hoping for another successful award in 2019!

Middleton Armed Forces Event
This is my second year as Township Chair and once again I was very honoured to attend the Middleton Armed Forces Event on Thursday 27th June 2019 at the Middleton Memorial Gardens. I was very honoured to stand alongside the Mayor, Cabinet Member, fellow Middleton Councillors, Other Officials and Veterans plus a number of members of the public who all came out in the once again in beautiful weather, to enjoy the service.

The event this year was very well attended and it was brilliant to see so many people showing their support for the men and women who make up the Armed Forces community, from currently serving troops to Service families, veterans and cadets.

Special thanks must go to Ron Aikens and Glynis Duffy of the Middleton Royal British Legion and Reverend Canon Philip Miller, from All Saints and Martyrs alongside colleagues from Environmental Management who work hard to ensure that Middleton Memorial Gardens looks fantastic throughout the year, whether there are services within the Memorial Gardens or not.

IDAHOBIT
I was very honoured to work with fellow Councillors and officers to facilitate the first year that Middleton has displayed a Pride Flag in honour of IDAHOBIT, which took place on Friday 17th May 2019. Considering this is the first year that Middleton have held such an event, I was truly honoured to see a number of people attend, including my fellow Middleton Councillors, the Deputy Council Leader, the Portfolio
Holder, MP Liz McInnes and others and I would like to formally thank all those who attended and helped arrange this event. Well done Middleton!

**PETERLOO 200**

This year marks 200 years since the Peterloo Massacre when around 60,000 men, women and children from across the North West, marched peacefully into Manchester to call for parliamentary reforms to secure more rights for themselves. This ended in blood shed as the local magistrates sent in the cavalry to disperse the crowd. 700 people were injured and 18 were killed. This became known as The Peterloo Massacre. To commemorate the anniversary there are a number of things taking place, including;

- Touchstones received funding from Township to display a range of objects from the collection with incredible stories linked to Peterloo, including the only surviving banner that was marched from Middleton by a group led by Sam Bamford. The exhibition will also include a project with the Youth Parliament and the Children’s council and props from Mike Leigh’s new film ‘Peterloo’.
- Touchstones have a commemorative project were members of the public have knitted small red liberty caps, much like the ones worn by the protesters. These will be used for a larger commemorative installation in Jubilee Park over the bicentenary of Peterloo. People in Middleton are being asked to write down what their hopes and protest beliefs are on small strips of white ribbon at libraries across the town. These will then be stitched to the caps and suspended at different heights from a suitable tree in Jubilee Park.

**Middfest 2019**

I would like to take this opportunity to publicise the upcoming MiddFest Event, which is scheduled to take place on Sunday 21st July 2019 at Limefields on Manchester Old Road in Middleton. The Middfest event has been running for over 26 years and I am excited to see what Middleton Roundtable have in store this year to excite the crowds.

*Thank you Mr. Mayor, I will be pleased to answer any questions from Members of the Council about these or any other matter relating to the Middleton Township Committee.*

Councillor Donna Williams  
Middleton Township Chair