

## Bad Day at the Office for the Third Eleven

Friday, 12 May 2017

On a pleasant Sunday afternoon in front of a decent crowd enhanced by a good following from the away team, Middleton 3rd XI entertained Glodwick 3rd XI in a top of the table clash at their Towncroft ground.

Having won the toss, Middleton Captain Mark Tierney invited the visitors to bat. The home side got off to a steady start and at one point restricted Glodwick to 66 for 3 with all 3 wickets being clean bowled by 3 different bowlers, Addison Holland, James Tierney and Ben Lee. This was the best it got for Middleton however as a combination of dropped catches, sloppy ground fielding and poor batting saw the game swing firmly back in Glodwick's favour.

By the end of their 40 overs Glodwick had posted a formidable total of 269-5 with James Chadwick (68) and Atif Khan (81n.o.) having steadied the ship and sharing a 4th wicket partnership of 114. The final 2 wicket of the innings fell to Holland for his 2nd of the day and Jack Nolan, who finally got his just rewards after previously having 3 catches dropped off his bowling.

In reply, Middletons innings got off to a bad start with in-form opener James Tierney falling early to a super catch from Zak McCannon to leave the home side 13-1. Middleton continued to lose wickets on a regular basis mainly due to a combination of poor shot selection and lack of patience. Middleton were eventually all out for 64 with only Holland (19) and Zain Ul Ahedin (17) reaching double figures.

A special mention must go to Glodwick bowler Muhammad Salmaan who finished with figures of 5.2(o) 2(m) 11(r) 5(w) including the chance of a hat-trick having had Aaron Eaves caught at gully followed the ball after by bowling Middleton Captain Mark Tierney.

All in all a bad day at the office for the young Middleton team against a strong Glodwick 3rd XI.

Middleton 3rd XI would like to thank groundsman John Foden, all of the tea ladies, scorers Gary Porter and John Edwards as well as umpires Steve Bryan and Nigel Standige.