



From the Parish Council

Contrary to the recent report in the Times and Citizen, Brickhill Parish Council has neither been offered money by Tesco, nor would it accept any if offered. The Parish Council was contacted by Tesco asking for details of local organisations or groups who may benefit from a one off community grant up to £500. However, it was resolved not to respond to this request as Tesco had not responded to correspondence from the Parish Council in relation to the opening of the new store on Brickhill Drive. The parish council have made several local groups aware of this funding opportunity but applicants must apply directly to Tesco.

Brickhill Parish Council has consistently sought to support the local shopping parades in Avon Drive and Brickhill Drive. We have campaigned successfully for refurbishment of the parades, we have argued for keeping a good balance of shops and we have supported shopkeepers who want to operate in a level playing field (in discussions about the terms of their leases). With regard to Brickhill Drive shops in particular, we have pressed for more parking provision, we ran a vigorous campaign to try to keep the Post Office, we supported the community group who wanted to keep the Bird in Hand pub going. When Tesco took over the pub we supported the Parish Poll and did our best to make sure that both Tesco and Bedford Borough Council understood local opinions and sought clarification on the legal position regarding covenants.



Queen's Diamond Jubilee Event Tuesday 5th June 2012 Waveney Green



The Parish Council are hosting its fourth Gathering on the Green event this year to coincide with the Queen's Diamond Jubilee Bank Holiday weekend. This year the focus will centre around our marquee which will have seating and a staged area. We have booked two magic shows and several local dance groups to showcase their work and get members of the audience to join in. In addition we shall be holding a Children's competition for the Best King and Queen's Crown with prizes for the winners.

Come along, bring a picnic to enjoy in the marquee - there are lots of attractions for everyone. This year we have booked some new attractions including the Raptor Foundation with a Birds of Prey flying display, Crazy Critters plus face painting, bouncy castles, bungee trampolines, mini carousel and train ride. All activities are free of charge so we hope you will come along and join in the fun.

Further information will be displayed on our parish notice boards, website and distributed to local schools nearer to the event.



Brickhill Parish Council Tax unchanged for 2012/13

At its meeting on 5th January, the Parish Council set its budget for the next financial year. The total precept is £107,855, which means that the Council Tax payable is unchanged next year. A typical Band D property would pay £33.16 for the year towards the Parish Council (approximately 64p/week).

This budget enables the Parish Council to continue working with the local community, through support for the Community Plan, grants to worthy local projects and events like Gathering on the Green. It will also include funds for repairs to footpaths on Waveney Green and other costs to maintain the Green and Brickhill Community Centre. Cllr Mark Fitzpatrick, chair of Brickhill Parish Council said: "We were determined to keep costs down and avoid any unnecessary increase in Council Tax for residents. I am pleased that we've done that but are still able to provide effective support to the community in Brickhill".

A GOOD TIME WAS HAD BY ALL

In December, Brickhill Community Centre Association, hosted their annual free Christmas party for Brickhill senior citizens.

Held at Brickhill Community Centre the hall was full to capacity with over 70 local residents attending. Volunteers from the Community centre provided a festive tea with all the trimmings along with a free raffle.

Popular local performer Billy Keys kept everyone entertained with jokes, popular and festive songs. The party finished with a community sing along.



BRICKHILL PARISH COUNCILLORS

EAST WARD

Cllr Mark Fitzpatrick (*Chair*)

☎01234 357259 📧 markfitzp@cix.co.uk

Cllr Peter Blakeman (*Planning Committee Chair*)

☎01234 355952 📧 pj.blakeman@btopenworld.com

Cllr Gurmel Chambers

☎01234 212536 📧 CHAMBERSB2B@aol.com

Cllr Dean Crofts

☎01234 302322 📧 deancrofts@live.co.uk

NORTH WARD

Cllr Andrew Wilkins

☎01234 308957 📧 andywilkins.bpc@ntlworld.com

Cllr Corinne Royden

☎01234 309175 📧 corinneroyden@gmail.com

Cllr Charles Royden (*also Borough Councillor*)

☎01234 309175 📧 charlesroyden@gmail.com

Cllr Linda Darbon

☎01234 325962 📧 lindadarbon@googlemail.com

SOUTH AND WEST WARD

Cllr Pat Ovenell

☎01234 341422

BRICKHILL 
PARISH COUNCIL

Cllr Wendy Rider (*also Borough Councillor*)

☎01234 303254 📧 wendyrider41@gmail.com

Cllr Raymond Waterhouse (*Vice Chair*)

☎01234 355801

📧 raymond.waterhouse@yahoo.co.uk

Cllr Jane Josephs

☎01234 341385

📧 Dr.Jane.Josephs@gmail.com

Parish Council meetings are open to the public and take place on the first Thursday of every month at 7:30pm (except August & December) and take place at St Mark's Church Community Centre, Calder Rise, Bedford MK41 7UY

Francesca Johnstone **Clerk to the Council**

Brickhill Community Centre, Avon Drive, Bedford, MK41 7AF

☎01234 271708

📧 clerk@brickhillparishcouncil.gov.uk

Website: www.brickhillparishcouncil.gov.uk

Dates for the diary

Parish Council meeting Thursday 1st March

Guest speaker Simon Fisher Green Spaces Officer for Bedford Borough Council on the Green Wheel route within Brickhill.

Park Wood Consultation Saturday 3rd March 9:30am-1:00pm Beauchamp Middle School

Organised by Bedfordshire Rural Communities Charity (BRCC) this event will include an introduction to the site and a range of activities to help assess the current value of the site, create a vision for Park Wood's future and identify specific management actions to enhance the site. The results of this event will help BRCC to write a management plan for the site. To ensure your interests and views are included do please try to attend. For further information please contact: Mike Fayers, Community Green Infrastructure Officer, BRCC 01767 626453 or email mikef@bedsrcc.org.uk

Lloyds Pharmacy – Prescription Delivery service

Did you know that Lloyds Pharmacy in Brickhill Drive will collect your prescriptions from your GP and then get them ready for you to simply collect from them at Brickhill Drive shops.

If this would be of help to you, please pop into the pharmacy at 102 Brickhill Drive to sign a form, or call **01234 262213**. For housebound people, they will even deliver the medicines free to your home.

ARE YOU A LOCAL BUSINESS LOOKING TO ADVERTISE?

Our newsletter is published quarterly and is distributed to over 4000 households within the Parish including Woodlands Park.

Our rates start from £25.00 per insertion although series discounts are available.

Please contact the Clerk for further details.

Nearly New Sale

3 March 2:00pm—4pm

Brickhill Community Centre, Avon Drive

Admission £1 Tables for Sellers £6
Items for sale include: Baby equipment, Children's clothes from birth, bedding, sleeping bags and brands such as M&S, Next, Gap, Mothercare; quality pre-school toys, and much more.

For more information or to book a table contact Melanie on 0755 2906157.

Profits from entrance/table fees to Bedford Hospital Children's Ward Appeal

WRVS

Make it Count Spare time on your hands?

Volunteering is a great way to share your skills, help the community, make new friends and have fun.

The Over 60s Club at Brickhill Community Centre need volunteers to help in this project.

If you are free on Tuesday afternoons and can spare a couple of hours please contact Sue 01234 341395 or Pat 01234 346505.

Bedford's 3rd annual Seed Sharing Saturday



3 March/11-2pm

Bunyan Church Hall

Mill Street, Bedford
Cycle storage at Mill Street entrance

The 2012 growing season is nearly upon us. Swap your surplus and saved seeds with other gardeners and growers. If you don't have any seed to swap or donate just bring yourself - there's plenty to go round.

Come for a cuppa & share your growing tips with others!

- ♦ Can't afford to buy all the seeds you'd like?
- ♦ Like to try to some new varieties?
- ♦ Need some ideas to improve your garden?
- ♦ Interested in starting a community garden?
- ♦ Interested in the In Bloom movement?



Bedford
in Bloom



For more information
07740 899634



FREE SEEDS

KIDS STUFF

FOOD TASTING

ADVICE

REFRESHMENTS

NEW IDEAS

LOCAL PRODUCE

LOCK UP AND LEAVE A LIGHT ON

Help us beat burglary by following a few simple steps to keep your property secure –

- Lock all external doors whether you are at home or not
- Close and lock all your doors and windows, even if you are going out for a few minutes
- Make sure UPVC doors are properly locked by lifting the handle and turning the key
- Lock your shed or garage
- Make sure any valuables are out of sight
- Leave a light on when you go out at night or install some plug-in timer switches
- Don't leave your car keys or ID documents near doors, windows or your letterbox



Brickhill Local Policing Team

Telephone: 101

e-mail: LPT.Brickhill@Bedfordshire.pnn.Police.uk

Mobile Police Surgery



Saturday March 17th

Brickhill Drive Shopping parade

10am-12pm

Community Safety Forum

The three priorities set at the last Community Safety Forum were to continue with :-

1. Speeding in Avon Drive, Waveney Avenue, Tyne Crescent, Wansbeck Road and Brickhill Drive
2. Anti-social behaviour,
3. Pedestrian safety issue in Woodlands Park and road safety issues at the mini roundabout at junction of Linnet Way and Brickhill Drive.

The next meeting is being held on:

**Wednesday 25th April at Anjulita Court,
Bramley Way, Woodlands Park.**

Arctic Conditions at Scott

Captain Scott would have felt quite at home on the play ground of Scott Lower School this week. Our youngest pupils had great fun learning outdoors in the snow working together to make a family of snowmen. The children wrote their names in the snow, counted footprints, measured footprints and compared the heights of the snowmen. They also learnt about the different forces needed to roll huge snowballs uphill! The snow provided a wonderful opportunity for the children to observe and identify a huge variety of animal tracks, who would have thought that we share our playground with foxes, deer, rabbits and birds! Buckets full of snow were brought back into the warm classrooms and the children watched in amazement as the snow began to melt. The children's learning was extended in so many ways by the arctic conditions at Scott!



DO YOU LOOK AFTER SOMEONE WHO IS FRAIL, ILL OR DISABLED?

Come along to a **FREE** drop in session on

26th March 2012, 10am-12pm

Brickhill Community Centre Avon Drive

Carers in Bedfordshire is a not-for-profit organisation that provides family carers of any age or caring circumstance living in Bedfordshire with information, advocacy and training. By family carer we mean anyone who is caring for a relative, partner, friend or neighbour on a regular basis and without payment.

Do come along to our event where you will be able to enjoy refreshments, collect information and chat to our staff. For further information please contact Sally Petre on 0300 111 1919.





North Brickhill Country Park taking shape

Despite recent cold weather, work is continuing on the new North Brickhill Country Park. The football pitches were planted in the autumn and the changing rooms are being built. More tree planting and landscaping is also happening, while a path has been built along the land between Grenadier Close and Browney Path that will form part of the 'Green Wheel' around Bedford. Creating the park is one of the conditions set on the developer by the Planning Inspector when he gave permission for the area to be developed.

For more news about the North Brickhill Country Park, come to the Annual Parish Meeting of Brickhill Parish on 14th May. Do come to the tree planting session on the 4th March (further details can be found on the back page) .

Beauchamp Middle School OFSTED Monitoring Visit 1-2 February

OFSTED carried out their first monitoring visit and the findings were very pleasing.

Achievement of Pupils

There is an effective range of provision to improve pupils' literacy and numeracy skills both in small groups and individually

The Quality of Teaching

The quality of teaching is improving as a result of the clear expectations promoted in the new policy for teaching and learning, clarification of what constitutes good teaching and regular, un-announced observation of lessons.

The Quality of Leadership and Management

The Headteacher has introduced new systems to build consistency of approach and to monitor progress more rigorously. The school improvement plan is strongly focussed on raising achievement and developing leadership and teaching.

Full details of the inspection will be available on the school website and the OFSTED website by the end of February.

I Evason, Headteacher

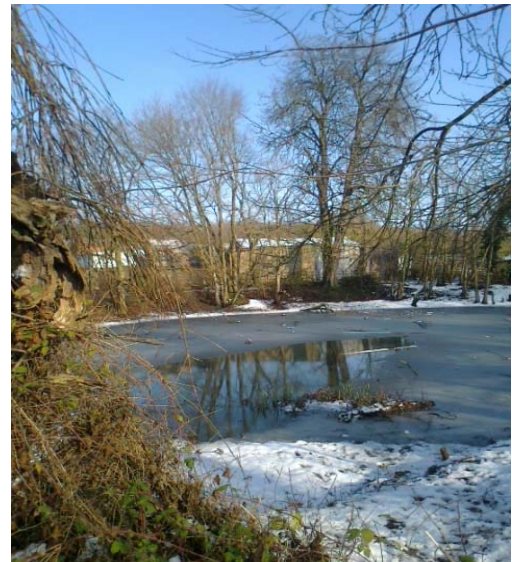
What's On at Sir William Harpur House

Indoor Games Afternoons are continuing at Sir William Harpur House, Clyde Crescent, on Wednesdays, from 2pm-4pm. Take part in Indoor Bowls, Curling etc., have a cup of tea. Meet new friends and have some gentle exercise; this is part of BPHA's **Fit@Sixty** project to encourage older residents to join in games, activities and exercise, socialise with other attendees and best of all have fun.

There is also a weekly exercise group which continues to meet on Thursdays at 11am, for one hour; these sessions cost £1. **Silver Surfers** project also meet here – it provides supported access to technology to people over the age of 50, with particular emphasis on the Internet and email. For more information about these please contact Janet Cook at BPHA on 01234 791147 by email at janet.cook@bpha.org.uk or see <http://tinyurl.com/7c44z7o>. These are just some of the activities available to the wider community. Other activities include coffee mornings, quizzes and bingo please contact Sir William Harpur House on 346370 to ensure availability as places are limited and priority given to residents.

Bringing life back into Clapham Park Pond

If you've been down Hawk Drive recently, you will have seen the transformation achieved by a team from Bedford Borough, BTCV and some local residents. It should now be possible for more light to reach the pond and it to achieve a more healthy balance in future.



Brickhill Community Directory Is Online!

As part of the Brickhill Community Plan, the Parish Council is creating a Brickhill Community Directory, listing local activities, services and facilities. It is available for downloading from the Parish Council website www.brickhillparishcouncil.gov.uk . If you would like to be included in this Parish directory, to make any amendments or to view a paper copy, please contact the Clerk at Brickhill Parish Council on 01234 271708 or email details to clerk@brickhillparishcouncil.gov.uk .

News From Your Borough Councillors

As Borough Councillors we strive to ensure the very best for Brickhill. It is important to us that things like graffiti and broken street signs are fixed quickly. We also regularly tour Brickhill looking for things like fly-tipping and broken street lights and the Borough Council provides a very good response service. The new Pothole Hit Squad recently had their first birthday and they filled 5,000 potholes, many of them in Brickhill. This is three times as many as ever before and residents can help us by telephoning 718003 to make reports.

We continue to be concerned about speeding across Brickhill and we have asked for police enforcement on roads including Brickhill Drive, Kimbolton Road, Windrush Avenue, Waveney Avenue and Avon Drive. We have already asked for a 20mph limit to be introduced outside St Thomas More School and we are now looking into the possibility of extending this along the entire length of Tyne Crescent. The problem with all speed limits is that they are only as good as the police enforcement, however Mayor Dave Hodgson has recently announced that the Borough Council will introduce wireless mobile average speed cameras and if they could be deployed on Tyne Crescent it would give the enforcement we need. Please do give us your views.

We provide regular monthly updates of our activity, please tell us if you would like us to email or post them to you. We are always pleased to offer help and advice and look forward to hearing from you if you have any matters of concern. **Wendy Rider and Charles Royden, Brickhill Borough Councillors**



• 100s of Brickhill residents already do

Healthy form of exercise
Fastest mode of transport for short journeys
Saves money on parking and fuel
Environmentally friendly
Energy efficient

Cycling Campaign for North Bedfordshire
www.ccnb.org.uk
www.cyclebedford.org.uk

“Hold a Fish and Chip Supper to help spinal cord injured people live full and independent lives.”

**Great British Fish and Chip Supper
Friday 18th May 2012**

Want to do something different while raising money for charity? Hold a fish and chip supper on Friday 18th May 2012 whilst raising awareness of spinal cord injury and supporting SIA's information and support services.

You can hold a fish and chip supper in your own home, at work or hold a larger supper at your local community centre.

SIA will provide a fundraising pack containing hints and tips, recipes, invitations and donation envelopes. By inviting 7 friends and asking them to donate an additional £5.00 means you will raise at least £35.00 from your supper but we will also give you additional fundraising ideas to raise even more money for SIA.

For more information or to request a fundraising pack call Elizabeth Wright on 0845 071 4350 or email fishandchips@spinal.co.uk or visit www.spinal.co.uk/fishandchips

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For more information

Please telephone:

01234 307322

Mobile 07940 755718



WHITE HART PRESS ADVERT

Brickhill Help and Advice

Borough Councillor Wendy Rider

23 Orwell Close, Brickhill, Bedford.

MK41 7BQ 01234 303254

wendyrider41@gmail.com

Borough Councillor Charles Royden

The Vicarage, Calder Rise, Brickhill,

Bedford. MK41 7UY 01234 309175

charlesroyden@gmail.com

Borough Cllr Wendy Rider

Borough Cllr Charles Royden



Local Surgeries taking place on:

Avon Drive—3rd March

Brickhill Drive—17th March

See our website

www.puttingbrickhillfirst.com

**for details of surgeries and the latest
Brickhill news**

Litter Picker Required

The Parish Council currently has a vacancy for a litter picker working 4 hrs per week commencing 1st April 2012.

The successful candidate will be responsible for litter picking on Waveney Green including the Play Area and reporting any damage or graffiti to the Clerk.

You would be expected to visit the site 4 x weekly including one weekend visit to ensure the site is kept clear of litter and attractive to all users.

You can expect to be paid the National minimum wage and you must be eligible to work in the UK to be considered for this position.

If you interested in applying for this vacancy please contact the Clerk (details below). The closing date for applications is **Friday 9th March**.

Email: clerk@brickhillparishcouncil.gov.uk
Telephone: (01234 271708)

Annual Parish Meeting

Monday 14th May—7:30pm
St Mark's Church Community Centre

Do you represent a local organisation in Brickhill? Do you want to publicise your group and its activities? Then perhaps you should come along to the Parish Meeting. This yearly event is an opportunity for local organisations to meet with our residents and give a report on events throughout the past year. If you are a local resident then come along and find out what is going on in your area. The Parish Council will also report back what they have been doing over the past 12 months including an update on the Community Centre and the Council's 3 year plan for Waveney Green which the Parish Council are now managing.

If you would like to attend and have any specific requirements then please contact the Clerk.

ALL WELCOME
REFRESHMENTS PROVIDED



Come and Plant a Tree

Setting some roots in Brickhill

Bring the family and join in the community plant a tree event.

Be part of creating the North Brickhill Country Park in Woodlands Park
(off Tyne Crescent)



Sunday 4th March 2012
1pm until 4pm



If driving – please park your car on Ashmead Road. (*This is a residential area so please be mindful of how and where you park*). Walk towards Anjulita Court - Woodlands Care Home. Look out for the tree route signs they will help you find the planting location

A variety of trees will be available.

Bring your own spade and a bit of muscle to get planting!

We will have a few spades on site as well for those without spades.



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