

General Woodlands Park Snagging List:

A general snagging list update has been sent to both Paul Pace and Persimmon for September/October. One issue has been resolved from previous months, seven remain open and there are no newly reported snags that pertain to the completion of adoption for September/October. The bin on the entrance to the Country Park adjacent Anjulita Court has been overflowing for a number of weeks. This was reported to Paul Pace / Claire Pick on 25 September and escalated to Persimmon on the same day. This is the most popular dog walking route and also the primary entry point to the bridleways leading north from Brickhill. It is unsightly and does not present a good impression to visitors using the country park.

There was support from the ward councillors for the borough council to take responsibility for some problem bins and reach an agreement about them with the developers.

Progress on other Projects:

No further progress made this month. It does not appear that estate adoption is any closer, therefore progress on these issues cannot proceed at this time. Cllr Bailes had obtained a copy of the current state of adoption by the borough council and there appears to have been no progress during 2017 to date.

Yellow Line Consultation:

A response to the Clerk's letter of support was received from Andrew Prigmore stating that he needed assent from both Borough Ward Councillors before he was able to amend the plans to add the opposite junctions marking. Cllr Corp said that she had already responded to Andrew Prigmore and she would ask Cllr Moon to also respond.

LED Lighting Observation:

The LED lighting is universally well received, however one resident has noted that the visors were not adjusted to take account of the new LED lighting head. Subsequently, he advises that where visors are fitted, they are in the wrong place to prevent street lighting from entering his bedroom.

Grassed Estate Paths:

Many of the estate paths, particularly leading to cul-de-sacs are not continuously tarmacked, but rather are grassed. Some residents are confused as to who has responsibility for mowing. A number of Grenadier Close residents have separately asked whether the grassed sections of paths can be tarmacked in the area around the toddler-specific playpark to prevent prams, buggies and wheelchairs from having to be pushed along road during periods of bad weather. This is made all the more dangerous as the most convenient crossing point for the play park is on a blind corner. Discussion also took place regarding gated access to the play park via the perimeter fence.

Cllr Bailes agreed to put together a set of proposals for consideration at the next parish council meeting.

The MacMillan Cancer Coffee Morning 30th September:

Cllr Bailes said that the event had raised in excess of £1,370. The parish council thanked Cllr Bailes and all those involved including the generosity of the contributors.

Cllr Bailes

6.

Financial Matters:

i) To approve bank reconciliations and any accounts for payment: **It was resolved** to accept these.

<u>Payee Name</u>	<u>Reference</u>	<u>Amount Paid</u>	<u>Transaction Detail</u>
Shaun Reilly	BACS 76	£ 170.00	Allotment Maintenance
Chris Horne Gardens Ltd	BACS 77	£ 780.00	Allotment Works
Bedford Borough Council	DD	£ 3,554.04	Salaries Sept
Associated Telecom Solutions	DD	£ 19.06	Telephone Charges
White Hart Press	BACS 78	£ 638.00	Newsletter Printing
BDO	BACS 79	£ 480.00	External Audit
Otis Ltd	BACS 80	£ 551.48	Lift Service
S Bottoms	BACS 81	£ 16.60	Refreshments etc
NPower	BACS 82	£ 38.77	Electricity Brickhill fountain
Sport Support	BACS 33	-£ 1,690.66	Activities
Solutions 4 Playgrounds	BACS 83	£ 156.00	Play area repairs
British Telecom	BACS 84	£ 84.00	Broadband Charges
Gee Tee Bulb Company	BACS 85	£ 200.40	Bulbs
St Marks Church Community Centre	1196	<u>£ 210.83</u>	Office rent and hall hire
	Total Payments	£ 5,208.52	

ii) To receive the report from BDO re: the accounts for 2016-17: It was noted that there had been no issues found with the accounts by the external auditor.

	<p>iii) <u>To note the £200 received from Mr Gumble re: the funfair and agree action:</u> It was resolved that this should be spent on Waveney Green.</p> <p>iv) <u>To agree a date for a meeting of the Finance and Personnel Advisory Group to discuss the budget for 2018-19:</u> The Clerk would circulate the members to establish a possible date early in December.</p>	Clerk
7.	<p><u>To consider and agree action re: an increase in the rent for allotments:</u></p> <p>Following discussion, it was resolved to increase from the 1st March 2018 the rent of a full plot from £52 to £56 per annum and a half plot from £30 to £35 and the concessionary rate for a full plot from £30 to £33 and for a half plot from £20 to £25 per annum. It was noted that there had been no increase in rents since 2009-2010. The Allotments Officer would write to all tenants informing them of this.</p>	Allotments Officer
8.	<p><u>To receive a report from the Borough Councillors:</u></p> <p>Cllrs Charles Royden and Wendy Rider had circulated a report to all parish councillors in advance of the meeting. The Clerk agreed to arrange for it to go on the website.</p> <p>Ward funding has been used to progress a 20mph scheme to cover Brickhill Primary School and the surrounding roads to Brickhill Drive, Linnet Way and Kimbolton Road. Work is expected to begin in late October.</p> <p>LED lighting is now in place across most of Brickhill, bringing savings on electricity cost and lights which self report faults.</p> <p>We are delighted that both Brickhill Primary and Scott Primary who have got off to a flying start with their new primary status. This was a big challenge so congratulations to both the Headteachers Anita Barker and Debbie Wilson and all their staff.</p> <p>Over £7,000 has been committed towards planting and maintaining trees in Brickhill. Work will also be started before the next nesting season to tackle invasive ivy which is choking trees in the wildlife corridor in Falcon Avenue.</p> <p>£1m extra funding towards road and pavement will see roads in Brickhill brought forward for resurfacing. Schemes for Plover Way and part of Tyne Crescent are in progress but we have asked for many roads to be added to the list for consideration. Our roads and pavements in Brickhill need this investment and we fully support the priority given which will help keep drivers and pedestrians safe. We have asked for the roundabout on the junction of Tyne Crescent and Avon Drive to be repaired since March and we are assured this will happen soon.</p> <p>Cllrs Stephen Moon and Sheryl Corp also provided a written report which the Clerk will put on the website.</p> <p>The Borough Council has teamed up with the Bedfordshire Rural Communities Charity (BRCC) to provide a ‘Mobility Hub’ supporting those who are unable to use public transport.</p> <p>Users of the ‘Door to Door’ service, which provides wheelchair accessible minibuses, will be able to rent electric scooters and wheelchairs from the Mobility Hub at Bedford Bus Station for a small charge. For more information see http://bedsrcc.org.uk/mobilityhub/ or call 01234348000. For more details on the Door to Door service, see http://bedsrcc.org.uk/door-to-door/ or call 01234838771.</p>	Clerk

	<p>The Borough Council has issued a reminder to residents that they may be eligible to receive Council Tax discounts. There are a number of exemptions or discounts in place covering, for instance; disabled people; students, and; people in residential care.</p> <p>For more information see http://www.bedford.gov.uk/advice_and_benefits/council_tax/application_forms.aspx or call 01234 267422.</p> <p>Representatives from Network Rail recently held an event at Borough Hall to inform councillors of their plans for railway improvement works.</p> <p>Of particular note are plans around the electrification of the line from London to Kettering. As far as Bedford is concerned, this will require reconstruction works to be undertaken at the Ford End Road and Bromham Road bridges in the town centre to allow the necessary overhead line equipment to pass beneath. This will have an effect on motorists using these routes. For Ford End Road, this work will take place in 2 phases from the 16th October – 30th November 2017 and from February 2018 possibly to July (for demolition and reconstruction). The first phase will still allow traffic to use the bridge as 1 lane will be kept open (with a subsequent 1 way system). The second phase will be more disruptive as the bridge will be closed and a diversion put in place. Bromham Road bridge will need to be entirely demolished and reconstructed. This will have the likely effect of causing congestion issues during the period of works but a start date is yet to be agreed.</p> <p>A national consultation has been announced around plans for increased housebuilding across the country. At present, the Council's Local Plan 2035 is allocating sites for development based on a calculated need to provide 950 homes a year. The Department for Communities and Local Government has now proposed a new methodology which, if agreed following a public consultation, will require the Council to plan for 1281 homes a year to 2026. While it is clear that this country has not built a sufficient number of homes over many years to keep pace with demand, we are concerned about the potential implications of the scale of new homes in the Borough should the new methodology be taken forward.</p> <p>We have asked Alistair Burt MP to liaise with the Housing Minister on our behalf to clarify the need for the housing target set for the Borough which goes above and beyond the Council's current plans. He is also working with the Borough to see if there are grounds for the Council to be exempted from the new proposals. For more information search 'planning for the right homes in the right places: consultation proposals'.</p> <p>All the ward councillor were thanked for their reports.</p>	
9.	<p><u>To consider Health & Safety and possible CCTV at Brickhill Community Centre:</u></p> <p>The parish council had received a letter from the Chairman of Brickhill Community Centre Management Committee asking that the parish council take action to get quotes for renewing the white lining of the car park and a ramp for the upstairs emergency exit. The Clerk reported that following the June parish council meeting, she had written to the Chairman of the Brickhill Community Centre Management Committee suggesting that the Centre obtain quotes, make recommendations to the parish council and the parish council would then meet the costs involved. The Management Committee also asked that the parish council consider CCTV cameras following a recent theft at the Centre.</p> <p>Cllr Bailes proposed and it was resolved that steps be taken to arrange a meeting between the existing working party of the parish council and the Brickhill Community Centre Management Committee as soon as possible to continue the progress that had been started when the two groups last met.</p> <p>A proposed date of the 10th October would be suggested by the parish council. Cllr Bailes would produce an agenda.</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Cllr Bailes</p>

10.	<p><u>To receive an update and agree any further action re: the request to install Christmas lights on the fir tree on Waveney Green:</u></p> <p>The Clerk reported that she had received two quotations for lights which both around £2000. She was in discussions with Darryl Hall at the borough council regarding the installation of power from the adjacent street lighting column. She had provided him with a specification of the lights supplied by the companies contacted.</p> <p>The Clerk had also confirmed that the parish council would meet the on-going electricity costs. She was now waiting for a quote from the borough council.</p>	Clerk
11.	<p><u>To discuss and consider action re: parish councillor training:</u></p> <p>It was resolved that the Clerk should contact Louise Ashmore and ask that the General Power of Competence and finance is included. The Clerk would confirm a date in January.</p>	Clerk
12.	<p><u>To note the date and location for a litter pick and bulb planting on 21st October:</u></p> <p>It was noted that this would be taking place between 10-12 noon with the car park adjacent to the changing rooms off Ashmead Road as the meeting place.</p> <p>The Clerk would contact Bedford Borough Council to ensure they were happy with the proposed planting locations.</p>	Clerk
13.	<p><u>To agree meeting dates for 2018-19:</u></p> <p>This was received and it was resolved to accept the dates. The Clerk would forward the dates for inclusion on the website.</p>	Clerk
14.	<p><u>To review the list of outstanding matters and agree any further action:</u></p> <p><u>Brickhill Signage:</u></p> <p>Cllr Fitzpatrick reported that he and Cllr Charles Royden had visited the two sites on Brickhill Drive and Kimbolton Road and have agreed the locations for the two gateways and have notified the borough council. A decision still needed to be made regarding the style of the signs at the other location in Kimbolton Road and Putnoe Lane.</p> <p><u>Death of Howard Humphries:</u></p> <p>Cllr Fitzpatrick noted that he had been elected onto the first Brickhill Parish Council and served for approximately four years.</p> <p><u>PCC Annual Parish Forum 20th September:</u></p> <p>Cllrs Fitzpatrick and Bailes attended. Lots of reorganisation is taking place within Bedfordshire Police and there appears to be an attempt to re-establish community policing. There appeared to be a willingness to enforce 20mph but only where appropriate street furniture was in place e.g. speed humps and chicanes. The police were due to meet with the three unitary councils in the near future to discuss this further. Cllrs Fitzpatrick and Bailes were thanked for their report.</p>	

	<p>NDP: Cllr Fitzpatrick reported that attempts were still being made to find relevant companies to provide quotations for planning consultancy.</p> <p><u>Odours/Potential Pollution from beyond the North Brickhill Country Park:</u></p> <p>The Clerk had circulated various communications involving Bedford Borough Council, the Environment Agency and residents. Following discussion, it was resolved that the Clerk should write to the contact at the Environment Agency and inform her that the parish council is unhappy with the time that has to date been taken to sort out this problem and to ask that the parish council is kept inform of any progress and action taken.</p> <p>The parish council will continue to encourage residents to report problems to the Environmental Health Department at Bedford Borough Council on 718099.</p>	<p>Clerk</p>
<p>24.</p>	<p><u>Date of Next Meeting:</u></p> <p>Thursday 2nd November 2017 at 7:30pm at St Mark’s Church and Community Centre, Calder Rise, MK41 7UY.</p>	

.....Approved by Chairman
2nd November 2017