

# Brickhill Borough Councillors Report

January 2018

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## Roads and Pavements

We are pleased to see work going on in Tyne Crescent and other roads across Brickhill, whilst we have asked for more to be done there is just more need than money.

## Street Lighting

Please tell us if you see old lighting which has not been replaced as the scheme is drawing to an end this year and the Borough Council will need to go and pick up on missed columns.

## Bedford Hospital

We are delighted that it appears the hospital is safe for now in Bedford. Mayor Dave Hodgson has been leading the fight to keep essential services here in Bedford and the public support has clearly been effective.

## Local Plan

The Borough Council Executive has put forward the Local Plan 2035 for the fifth and latest consultation. A meeting of Bedford Borough Council's Executive will next week consider Bedford Borough's Local Plan 2035 for public consultation. The Council is required by the Government to plan for the 'Objectively Assessed Need' for housing in the Borough to be met in full. This requirements means that the Council must plan for 19,000 dwellings to be built to 2035. However, with allocations and permissions already in place for the majority of this number, new sites are required for just under 8,000 of these dwellings. The Council must also make sure that sites are available for new jobs to be created alongside housing. Employment sites identified in earlier plans provide enough space for future requirements. For this reason no new strategic employment land needs to be found at this stage to meet the Borough's needs. The focus for housing growth continues to be urban area of Bedford and Kempston, with brownfield sites accounting for around 80% of the new homes planned in the urban area.

In order to limit the impact on existing communities, the Plan also includes a proposal for one new settlement- Colworth Garden Village- which would provide around 2,500 homes by 2035. The proposals include a new parkway rail station to help ease congestion on the A6, alongside two new access roads from the A6 one of which would provide a new access to Santa Pod Raceway and Colworth Science Park thereby taking traffic away from existing villages and rural roads.

## Moriston Road

We have requested no verge parking in Moriston Road and the introduction of the 20mph speed limit in roads off Larkway and Brickhill Drive. There has been a delay as staff have been deployed on gritting across the Borough.

## School Zig Zag Enforcement by Camera

We have requested consideration at Brickhill and Thomas More especially to enforce no parking outside schools.

## Rights of Way

We have a few of these in and around Brickhill. A public consultation is open on a new five year programme about the public rights of way network across Bedford Borough. The vision is for people to use and enjoy the Borough's Public Rights of Way network and to involve everyone in protecting and managing this valued asset. The Council is responsible for nearly 1000km of footpaths, bridleways and byways open across the Borough. The Rights of Way Improvement Plan sets out our proposed aims, objectives and actions to increase public use and enjoyment of these routes over the next five years, from 2018-2023.

You can respond in the following ways;

- On the website at [www.bedford.gov.uk/rowip](http://www.bedford.gov.uk/rowip)
- By email to [consultingbedford@bedford.gov.uk](mailto:consultingbedford@bedford.gov.uk),
- By post to Consulting Bedford, Bedford Borough Council, Borough Hall, Cauldwell Street, Bedford, MK42 9AP.

Hard copies will be available at Borough Hall, the Customer Service Centre on Horne Lane, and at the Libraries.

For more information on what is happening in and around Brickhill and to keep in touch please visit our website [www.puttingbrickhillfirst.com](http://www.puttingbrickhillfirst.com) You can also sign up for our newsletter.

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