



## **Brickhill Borough Councillors Update - Wendy Rider and Charles Royden February 2018**

Although we live in Brickhill many of us from time to time have found the Putnoe Walk-In-Centre invaluable when we or a member of our family is ill. When we heard of its imminent closure, we mounted a campaign calling for the decision to be reversed and thank you to everyone who signed our petition to stop the closure. Mayor Dave Hodgson met with senior leaders of the Clinical Commissioning Group and the day after that it was announced that the contract has been extended for six months. This means that closure will coincide with the opening of an 'Urgent Treatment Centre' at Bedford Hospital. We believe that this should be in addition to the Putnoe Walk in Centre, not instead of ! Putnoe Walk-In Centre provides urgent care to around 35,000 people each year and we will fight to keep these resources in our local community.

The Government recently announced cuts to remove all peak time fast intercity train services from Bedford to and from London. Journey times will be 12 minutes slower on replacement commuter trains and the changes are being imposed without explanation or consultation. Mayor Dave is meeting with the Secretary of State to seek a reversal of this disastrous policy which will be damaging to our local economy and hurt commuters who already pay inflation busting fares.

The supported accommodation being built on Brickhill Drive is now scheduled to be completed towards the end of March. It will be operated by BPHA and Bedford Borough Council will manage allocations. The building is to be called William Barron Court and it is named after the architect who designed Bedford Park. If you have any questions we are keeping residents informed about this housing scheme on our website [www.puttingbrickhillfirst.com](http://www.puttingbrickhillfirst.com)

Over the next few weeks you will see work taking place across Brickhill using money from our ward fund including a 20mph speed zone in roads from Larkway and Falcon Avenue to Brickhill Drive. There is also a 'no verge parking' zone in Moriston Road and we are seeking additional no verge parking zones to stop the destruction of verges around Brickhill.

As your local councillors we will continue to work hard and keep you informed through regular deliveries of FOCUS, surgeries and website where you can sign up for a regular Brickhill newsletter.  
[www.puttingbrickhillfirst.com](http://www.puttingbrickhillfirst.com)

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