

BRICKHILL NEWS

The newsletter of Brickhill Parish Council

Issue 53

February 2018



Activity Sessions during Easter holidays

Monday 9th April 2pm - 4pm
Football coaching with MK Dons

Football pitches off Ashmead Road, Woodlands Park
Age 13 - 16 years (school years 8 - 11)

Tuesday 10th April 2pm - 4pm
Football coaching with MK Dons

Football pitches off Ashmead Road, Woodlands Park
Age 9 - 12 years (school years 4 - 7)

Only £3.00 per session please ensure you have football boots, shin pads must be worn

Monday 9th April 9am - 1pm
Mobile Climbing Tower & Archery

Brickhill Primary School
Age 7-12 years **£7.50 per session**

Places are limited so you will need to book and reserve your place. Please contact the parish council on 01234 271708 or email us at clerk@brickhillparishcouncil.gov.uk

Brickhill Parish Council Spring Tea
Friday 23rd March 2pm - 4pm
St Mark's Church Community Centre

Are you a resident aged 65 years young or over?
Why not join us for a traditional afternoon tea of sandwiches, cakes, entertainment and good company.



Places are limited so please contact us to reserve your free place on 01234 271708 or email us at clerk@brickhillparishcouncil.gov.uk
Please let us know of any dietary requirements.

BRICKHILL PARISH COUNCILLORS

EAST WARD

Cllr Mark Fitzpatrick (Chair)

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✉mark.x.fitzpatrick@gmail.com

Cllr Peter Blakeman (Planning Committee Chair) ☎01234 355952

✉pj.blakeman@btopenworld.com

Cllr James Cross

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Cllr Tim Retout

☎01234 307998 ✉tim@retout.co.uk

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Cllr Corinne Royden

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Cllr Charles Royden

(Borough Councillor for Brickhill)

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Cllr Lynne Seymour

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Borough Councillors for Woodlands Park

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Cllr Stephen Moon

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WOODLANDS PARK WARD

Cllr Chris Bailes

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**Mrs Sue Bottoms,
Clerk to the Council**

St Marks Church and Community Centre,
Calder Rise, Brickhill, MK41 7UY

☎01234 271708

✉clerk@brickhillparishcouncil.gov.uk

Office Hours

Monday—Thursday 10am—2pm

Parish Council meetings

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

Annual Parish Meeting Wednesday 11th April

Councillor surgeries are held at 7pm before each Parish Council meeting.



Brickhill News is published by Brickhill Parish Council. Printed by White Hart Press, 58a York Street, Bedford. Disclaimer: Whilst every effort has been made to ensure that the information provided is accurate at the time of going to press, the Parish Council takes no responsibility for the errors or omissions in editorial or advertising content. The views expressed by contributors are not necessarily those of the Council.

Brickhill Borough Councillors' update

Wendy Rider (wendyrider41@gmail.com; 01234 303254)

Charles Royden (charlesroyden@gmail.com; 01234 309175)



Although we live in Brickhill many of us 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. 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 affect commuters.

The supported accommodation being built off Brickhill Drive should 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 is named after the architect who designed Bedford Park. If you have any questions about this housing scheme visit our website 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.

Local Plan 2035

The latest stage of the local plan sets out how the Government's targets for housebuilding in Bedford Borough can be met and which of the original 600+ proposed sites for development are proposed for inclusion. The Graze Hill proposal has been cut to 100 homes, with road access from Kimbolton Road and pedestrian/cycle links to Woodlands Park. Freeman's Common has been withdrawn and is not included for consideration. The Local Plan will shape the development of the Borough over the next 17 years. It also includes proposals for infrastructure, including the creation of a new railway station north of Bedford. The views of the public are now wanted. You can comment any time between now and 5th March. For more information go to www.bedford.gov.uk/LocalPlan2035. The draft plan is available here: <http://tinyurl.com/yabumgdh>.



Brickhill Parish Council is holding a special public meeting, to allow residents to find out more about the Local Plan 2035, ask questions and make comments. A senior planning officer from the Borough Council will be there. The Parish Council will then submit its response to the consultation at its meeting on Thursday 1st March.

Special Public Meeting on Local Plan

Thursday 22nd February 7:30pm

St Mark's Church Community Centre

Parish Council Budget for 2018/19 financial year

The total precept (the amount to be raised via council tax) is £120,900, which equates to a Band D charge of £34 for the year, an increase of 1p from 2017/18. The budget includes continued care and management for Waveney Green and Brickhill allotments, also care for the fabric of Brickhill Community Centre, contributions towards the cost of children's activities in the Easter and Summer holidays, the 'Spring Tea' event for senior citizens and the Gathering on the Green event. The parish continues to offer grants to support local organisations (more details available on the website or contact the Clerk). There are plans to help pay for a 'real time information' display at the bus stop in Brickhill Drive opposite Curlew Crescent. The existing CCTV system in Ashmead Road may be extended with one or two additional cameras installed elsewhere in Brickhill.

Over the next year, the parish council aims to complete taking on responsibility for the open space between Waveney Green and Francis Groves Close; it will follow this up with construction of a footpath to link Francis Groves Close to the Waveney Green paths. The parish is also actively considering taking on responsibility for the large play area in Mowsbury Walk, behind St Mark's Church.

Cllr Mark Fitzpatrick, Chair, Brickhill Parish Council

Scott Primary School welcome a very special visitor on Friday 26th January

Gold medal winning sprinter Leon Bapiste visited the school to deliver an inspiring and engaging assembly. Not only that, 300 children took part in a sponsored circuits session to really get them motivated, and the teachers didn't get away with it - they took part too!



The visit was arranged with Sports for Champions, an organisation who promote awareness to young people whilst helping raise money for future athletes to compete at Commonwealth and Olympic level. The students were amazing and very enthusiastic taking part in all the sporting activities. They all went away with the important message that hard work and determination helps achieves your full potential. A fantastic £1,400 was raised with funds being shared with Leon and the school.

Headteacher Anita Barker said 'We were honoured to have such a special visitor to our school. We promote activity not only for health but for mental wellbeing too and Leon truly engaged our children to not only exercise but to be hard working in all aspects of life'. Laurence Allen, the PE teacher was full of praise 'I was very proud of all our students who wholeheartedly took part with such energy and displayed exemplary behaviour. I am sure we will see some of our students on the top podium at the future Olympics!' Leon said 'I had a fantastic time at Scott Primary School and I was made to feel very welcome. The children were enthusiastic and I look forward to visiting again'.



Improved Bus Ticket Conditions

Last October, Stagecoach and Grant Palmer in conjunction with Bedford Borough Council launched a '**Cygnnet**' smartcard which allows bus users to switch freely between the two operators without the need to buy multiple tickets. The Cygnnet travel zone equates to the area currently covered by the Stagecoach Megarider and includes the whole of Bedford and Kempston, as well as surrounding villages such as Bromham, Clapham, Cople and Elstow.

For Brickhill and in particular Woodlands Park residents, this means that you can now use Stagecoach service No 6 interchangeably with Grant Palmer's Nos 20 (to/from railway station), 21 to/from town centre and Abbeyfields and 22 (to/from town centre and Sainsbury's).

The 'Cygnnet' smartcard costs £5 for a day ticket, with the weekly ticket priced at £17. You can buy your smartcard on Stagecoach and Grant Palmer buses. Ask your driver for a new card which costs 50p, which you can keep and re-use. Your ticket products can be loaded onto your smartcard on the bus when you purchase. Every person that uses a bus means one less motor vehicle causing congestion and pollution on Brickhill and the towns' roads.

Cllr Peter Blakeman

Brickhill Community Centre, Avon Drive a hive of activity in the heart of Brickhill



The Community Centre is used for a tremendous range of activities including: keep fit, martial arts, yoga, line dancing, karate, belly dancing, tap dancing, bridge, WI and WRVS. There are two large halls and a small meeting room available for hire; for more information contact Sue Stewart the Centre Manager on 01234 312332. E-mail: brickhillcommunitycentre@googlemail.com. Office open Tuesdays and Fridays, 10am-4pm.

Why not try: Mike's Line Dancing (07971 764982), 'No Fear' Bridge (07713 626541), Karate or Keep Fit (07941 264885)

The Community Centre is run on a day-to-day basis by the **Brickhill Community Association** charity. Membership is free and is open to residents of Brickhill. New members are welcome. Contact Stuart Green, 39 Larkway (tel 01234 354339) for more information. www.brickhillparishcouncil.gov.uk/community/community_centre.html



Brickhill Community Safety Forum

Tuesday 6th March, 7:30pm, St Mark's Church Community Centre, Calder Rise.



A member of the Brickhill policing team will talk about Neighbourhood Policing in Brickhill. This is your opportunity to ask any questions about policing matters locally. There will also be an update on the latest crime statistics for Brickhill and tips on what you can do to help cut crime. All welcome. Tea and coffee provided.

<https://twitter.com/CSFBrickhill>

Brickhill Allotments

Want to grow your own produce but don't have outdoor space? Then why not rent an allotment. We have a few plots available to rent.

Full Plot full rate £56 per year

Full plot concessionary rate £33 per year

Half Plot full rate £35 per year

Half plot concessionary rate £25 per year

If you would like further information please contact the parish council office on 01234 271708 or email clerk@brickhillparishcouncil.gov.uk

St Thomas More are delighted that local businessman Mr Clive Wiley, MD of Parrott Construction and Mr Chris Layram, have become the new sponsors of our Car Racing Team



Our new sponsors came to meet the team and see what they are planning. The team couldn't wait to show off their hard work, demonstrate how the cars work and share their plans. The STM Design & Technology department along with students aged 12-18 have designed & constructed two electric powered racing cars which can now be entered into the Greenpower International races at Rockingham Raceway. Cars from all over the UK enter this competition and in previous years, our successes to date have included third place in annual races as well as winning awards for the 'Best Looking Car' and the 'Most Interesting Technology'. Powered by a 24 volt DC motor and two 12 volt batteries, the cars can reach speeds in excess of 30 mph, enabling the drivers to complete two, 90 minute races, with pit stops for driver change over.



The St Thomas More Design and Technology Department strive to give all of our students the chance to participate in additional activities that will bring their learning to life. The Car Racing Team enables students of all abilities and backgrounds to come together and showcase their creativity and ingenuity – ICT, Design, Science, Technology, Business, Engineering and Maths skills are all put to the test within the team as well as improving social and communication skills. There is no charge to the student to join the club or participate in the activities and the entire project is funding through fundraising and donations. We are delighted that both Mr Wiley and Mr Layram are our team sponsors and their support will enable us to further develop our existing cars, fund our practice sessions on suitable race tracks and provide the team with all of the required safety equipment they need to be able to competitively race next year. The full news story is available on the parish council website at www.brickhillparishcouncil.gov.uk/news

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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



Local surgeries taking place at 10am at:

**Brickhill Drive shops Saturday 17th March
& Avon Drive shops Saturday 3rd March**

See our website
www.puttingbrickhillfirst.com
For details of surgeries and the latest
Brickhill news



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3.30 pm, 5.30 pm & 7.30 pm

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