



BRICKHILL NEWS

Mowsbury Walk

Issue 61

October 2019

The newsletter of Brickhill Parish Council

Report from your local community police ... Denying criminals use of the road

On the 4 September we held our quarterly community priority setting meeting for the Brickhill, De Parys and Harpur areas of Bedford. At these meetings we provide recent crime statistics (available on Police.co.uk), talk about what the team has been doing in these areas and decide on our future focus, while of course still managing many other things throughout Bedford. Previously for Brickhill and De Parys, drugs was the focus, as so many residents felt strongly that it was a problem. In the last period we also were aware of a rise in the perception of burglary. In the next period, I put forward an idea of "denying criminals use of the road" with the aim of tackling the use of vehicles by people engaging in criminal and unlawful activity such as not



being insured or using vehicles in a manner which is anti-social or dangerous. When I say vehicles being used for criminal activity, this means burglars using vehicles to mobilise, drug dealing from vehicles, and anything else where vehicles are being utilised to facilitate crime. Vehicles that are involved in criminality are more likely to be uninsured, unlicensed and driven in a dangerous manner. We have many tools for identifying these people on the roads and it is about investing real time into finding them. This can impact on different types of crime. Where there are differing schools of thought about whether drugs or anything else, is the biggest problem, we can hopefully now impact on more than one area.

We need your help. Report what is going on in your area to help focus our efforts. Contact us on 101 for non-emergency, our online reporting tool, our webchat service and in emergencies, or if a crime is in progress, call 999. If you just want to give information about suspicious activity, contact me directly. I am the officer for Brickhill and De Parys

charlie.crozier@bedfordshire.pnn.police.uk and there is also a PCSO who works closely with me emma-jo.muggridge@bedfordshire.pnn.police.uk. We are based out of Lime Street Police Station but are often out and about in the area. If you do see me, please come and let me know about any issues in the area that you think I should be aware of. Yours may be the final piece of information that I need to make a really positive effect on that problem. **We aim to hold the next priority meeting on 6th December**. We will let you know where it is via Beds Alert, Twitter, Facebook and your councillors as soon as we have it. We look forward to seeing you.

Beaver away at the Allotment....

When Brickhill Parish Council were asked by the Beavers if an allotment could be provided, it jumped at the chance. It is a great way to introduce young people to where their food comes from and the joy of growing and eating their own produce. As the photo



shows, the beavers really got stuck in and had an amazing time out there; they would have stayed out all night given the chance. They have planted some onions for now and have planned for next year with strawberries, blueberries, blackberries and pumpkins being popular choices. The Beavers are extremely grateful to the parish council for this opportunity. All the groups are constantly looking for adults to become leaders or volunteers.

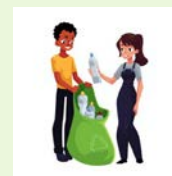
Please contact: eamon132@gmail.com or cubs@brickhillscouts.org.uk

Community Litter Pick

Saturday

2nd November

10am –12 noon



Meet at the **junction of Westrope Way and Ashmead Road**

We will supply the litter-picking equipment - just wear sensible clothes and shoes

Help us to brighten up Brickhill

For more information, please contact the Parish Clerk (details on page 2).

BRICKHILL PARISH COUNCILLORS

EAST WARD

Cllr Mark Fitzpatrick (Chair)

☎01234 357259

✉mark.x.fitzpatrick@gmail.com

Cllr Peter Blakeman (Planning Committee Chair) ☎01234 355952

✉pj.blakeman@btopenworld.com

Cllr Stuart Green

☎01234 354339

✉stuart.green5938@ntlworld.com

Cllr Tim Retout

☎01234 307998 ✉tim@retout.co.uk

NORTH WARD

Cllr Vincent Holloway

☎07512 008386

✉vholloway1975@gmail.com

Cllr Corinne Royden

☎01234 309175 ✉corinneroyden@gmail.com

Cllr Charles Royden

(Borough Councillor for Brickhill)

☎01234 309175 ✉charlesroyden@gmail.com

Cllr John Durham

☎01234 212834 ✉jdurham1@btinternet.com

Borough Councillors for Woodlands Park

Cllr Phillippa Martin-Moran-Bryant

✉phillippa.martinmoranbryant@bedford.gov.uk

Cllr Stephen Moon

☎01234 870061

✉stephen.moon@bedford.gov.uk



Dates for your diary.....

4th December at 6pm on Waveney Green:

Christmas lights will be switched on

Volunteers Required

Brickhill News is published 5 times per year and delivered to every household within the parish. This means we need lots of volunteers - could you help? If you could deliver to a few local streets near to where you live and can spare an hour, please contact the parish council office.

SOUTH AND WEST WARD

Cllr Ann Reeve

☎01234 343260 ✉r_reeve1@sky.com

Cllr Wendy Rider

(Borough Councillor for Brickhill)

☎01234 303254

✉wendyrider41@gmail.com

Cllr Cathrine Ward

☎01234 295951

✉mahovoward@yahoo.co.uk

Cllr Morris Johns

☎01234 217364 ✉morrisjohns@yahoo.co.uk

Cllr Alastair Grant

☎01234 342076 ✉agrantbpc@gmail.com

WOODLANDS PARK WARD

Cllr Chris Bailes

☎07525 166313

✉chris@woodlandspark.community

Cllr Michael Jarman-Webb

☎01234 816436

✉michael@woodlandspark.community

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

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

☎01234 271708

✉clerk@brickhillparishcouncil.gov.uk

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

Parish council meetings are now also recorded. The latest one can be viewed on

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eD1P0IJnxgc>

Follow us on

<https://www.facebook.com/BrickhillPC/>

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Brickhill Borough Councillors September 2019 From Cllr Wendy Rider and Cllr Charles Royden

Unlawful Encampments

This year has seen an unprecedented number of unlawful encampments in Brickhill, repeatedly these have been on the green on Brickhill Drive.

As councillors we believe that local authorities should be granted powers to confiscate vehicles which refuse to leave public land. Sadly the government has tied the hands of local councils and they are forced to take lengthy court procedures and play cat and mouse with multiple applications to the court for different groups of people on the same sites.

Governments appear to consider the human rights of those who engage in this activity to be more important than those of the law abiding settled community. Our green has been left in a disgusting condition requiring cleansing to remove large amounts of litter, fly tipping and human waste. One recent encampment also coincided with a burglary in which large amounts of equipment were stolen from the scouts and the council.

We have sought to use legal means to prevent these encampments and since a High Court Injunction was placed on Waveney Green there has only been one brief episode and the encampment was quickly moved. However recent challenges have been made in the courts by travellers and the same court process now has to be engaged when encampments refuse to abide by the injunction, causing delays. We have also negotiated with the police to ask them to use their Section 61 powers which allow them to immediately remove encampments of six or more vehicles when they were located on public land. On some occasions the police have done this and we believe this is the best and fastest way to remove disorderly unlawful encampments. We will always ask the police to do so.

These encampments are a criminal disturbance to our community and there is a cost involved in dealing with them. The lengthy court process and the cleansing of the sites all involve large numbers of already stretched council staff. We are extremely grateful to council officers who always respond immediately as soon as we report an encampment and action is taken through the courts as quickly as possible.

Given the difficulties outlined above as soon as the last attack occurred on Brickhill Drive we asked council officers to begin excavating a shallow ditch. This measure has been helpful elsewhere as whilst it stops caravans it can be mown and does not obscure the open aspect of the green. It must be stressed that protective measures such as barrier posts, ditches and bunding are not entirely effective at preventing encampments. Access points must be provided for maintenance and emergency vehicles and those who engage in unlawful encampments have shown a willingness to break locks and gates to gain access. This has frequently occurred across the Borough, even on sites which also have High Court Injunctions. Nevertheless they are clearly a discouragement and together with CCTV we must do all we can to protect our community on sites which are frequently attacked. We will continue to pursue all legal means to reinforce the protection and allow the fastest removal of those who unlawfully access our community land.

As soon as any unlawful encampment arrives in Brickhill we always keep you informed within minutes on our website www.puttingbrickhillfirst.com

We will continue to work hard and keep you informed through regular deliveries of FOCUS, surgeries and our website where you can contact us direct www.puttingbrickhillfirst.com

Wendy Rider, 23 Orwell Close, 01234 303254 wendyrider41@gmail.com

Charles Royden, The Vicarage, Calder Rise, 01234 309175 charlesroyden@gmail.com



Bedford RSPB local group

Meet at ARA club, Manton Lane Bedford MK41 7PF.

Thursday 21st November 7.30pm. Mike Weedon is assistant editor of 'Bird Watching' magazine. In January 2018 Mike fulfilled a lifelong bird watching ambition to revisit eastern **Hokkaido, the northernmost of the main Japanese islands**. He will be sharing with us the amazing wildlife spectacles for which the region is renowned. RSPB membership not essential. Entrance fee, group members £1, guest £2, annual group membership £5. The facilities, including refreshments, are at ground level and there is secure parking. Reg. Charity No. 207076, more info available at: www.rspb.org.uk/groups/bedford



ALPHA Who is it for?

People who want to explore the basics of the Christian faith
People wanting to brush up on the basics of Christianity
People who want to explore the meaning of life

Tuesday's 7.30pm All Nations Church, Brickhill Drive.

Contact:

Angelina.florio@allnationsbedford.org

News from Scott Primary... We are excited to announce that the children at Scott Primary School have a brand new sensory room, filled with a variety of specialised products to induce relaxation and calm. It provides a place for children to feel safe in and is good for children who are over-sensitive to sensory information. It includes a sensory bubble tube, which is soothing to watch with the mesmerising movement and changes in soft colours. At the same time, this stimulates visual development and communication skills. Soothing sounds are created through the use of a calming CD, which also promotes sensory development. Our colour changing fibre optic lamps, tank sets, complete with dancing jellyfish, exotic fish and mood table provide relaxing visuals whilst adding interest. Our children are delighted with their new room!



Our **Fireworks Night** is on: **Tuesday 5th November**. Gates open 5.30pm. Single ticket £4/ family £12 in advance or £5/ £15 on the gate (under 4's free). For tickets visit the school office or on the gate (both cash only), or Eventbrite (search for Scott Primary School fireworks). Booking fee charged.



BRICKHILL COMMUNITY CENTRE SENIOR CITIZENS CHRISTMAS PARTY

Complementary refreshments and seasonal entertainment

**With
Billy Keys**

**Tuesday 3rd December 2019
2pm – 4pm**

Brickhill Community Centre, Avon Drive,
Bedford MK41 7AF

To reserve your place please contact Sue Stewart at
Brickhill Community Centre on 01234 312332



News from Brickhill Primary...

For the first time, there have been elections for head boy and head girl and a group of prefects have been selected. They have not been in their roles for long, but are enjoying their new responsibilities and we are positive that they will prove to be excellent assets to the school. Year 3 had an interesting visit to Sainsbury to find out where food comes from and how it gets to the shop. They sampled some of the delights from the deli. Thank you to all of the staff for being so helpful. Year 5 are looking forward to enjoying the night sky with help from a Planetarium, which they are borrowing from the Science Department at Mark Rutherford. They will then be visiting the Airbus Foundation Discovery Space centre, in Stevenage, next month to continue their exploration of the universe. All children are encouraged to join after-school sports clubs. The netball competition is already underway and training is happening in futsal, tag rugby, dodgeball and cricket. It's going to be another fantastic year!

The **Christmas Fair** is on **29th November, 6pm-8.30pm** at **Brickhill Primary School, Dove Road.**

Fun filled family event with a craft fair, games, Santa's grotto, carol singing and a licensed bar. Come and get in the festive spirit!!



Park Wood Local Nature Reserve

Summer comes to an end with its crescendo of fruits, berries and seeds. The apples in our community orchard have done particularly well as you can see from the laden Laxton Fortune (pictured). The hedgerows are weighed down with rose hips, blackberries, hawthorn haws, guelder rose and wayfaring tree berries. Our wildflower meadow has been mown and we have



removed the vegetation to encourage next year's flowers to grow strongly with as little

competition from coarse grasses as possible. At this time of year there are few nectar sources for our insects and so ragwort (pictured) is particularly useful. Ragwort has a regrettably poor reputation as it is somewhat toxic to grazing livestock, But as the reserve has no cattle, horses, sheep or goats (which, anyway, avoid it and will not eat it in the pasture), it is left as a late summer food supply for our welcome bees, beetles, hoverflies and butterflies.



You can keep up with our activities via our Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/ParkWoodNatureReserve>

Lets work together to keep Brickhill a great place to live...

One of the good things about living in Brickhill is that the verges and greens are regularly cut and everything looks clean and neat and this encourages residents and visitors not to throw litter and to take responsibility for their dog



poo. There is however one part of the parish which is let down by dog owners

and that is Clapham Park and the entrance off Hawk Drive. Please see the "before" photos on the left and above. The area around the entrance was overgrown and dog owners had been leaving "poo" bags and allowing their dogs to do their "doggy doos" on the



grass. Disgusting, unhygienic and a health hazard particularly as there are two schools and a dog poo bin nearby. Having heard that there had been complaints to Brickhill Parish Council, Barry Ingram very kindly volunteered and took action on its behalf and as a result the area has now been cleared of dog poo, litter and the vegetation cut back, as the photos below show.

Everyone has a responsibility to do their bit to help make Brickhill a nice place to live and to enjoy. We all need to work to keep it so.



Dog owners please clear up after your dogs. Put your plastic bags containing dog poo in the dog poo bin or take it home. The parish council office often gets complaints about dog fouling. If there is a need to clear up dog waste or if you do see individuals allowing their dogs to foul and not to clean up and dispose of the waste properly, **please contact** Bedford

Borough Council on <https://www.bedford.gov.uk/environmental-issues/animal-care-and-control/dog-and-dog-issues/>



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Contact Ryan on 07980 209587 or
Email: ryangascoynephg@gmail.com



Brickhill

Monday Afternoons 1:15pm	Wednesday Mornings 9:30am
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Brickhill Community Centre
Avon Drive, Bedford, MK41 7AF

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Email: cmcfitness28@gmail.com

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:

Avon Drive shops Saturday 12th October
Brickhill Drive shops Saturday 26th October

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

BEDS Prostate Cancer Support Group 
www.bpcsg.org.uk

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the Health of your Prostate***

*1 in 8 men (1 in 4 for Black men) will get Prostate Cancer.

**FOR ALL MEN AGED OVER 40 YEARS
PSA BLOOD TESTING DAY.**

DROP IN SESSION: – SATURDAY 26TH OCTOBER 2019.

Register for any time slot on-line at www.gfct.psatesting.org/events/
(Click on PSA test events, click on Bedford 26th October and follow instructions).

Or, alternatively :

Attend in time slots allocated by surname as below:
A-D (10:00 – 10:30) E-H (10:30 – 11:00) I-L (11:00 – 11:30)
M-P (11:30 – 12:00) Q-T (12:00 – 12:30) U-Z (12:30 – 13:00)

At
KINGS HOUSE
245 Amptill Road
Bedford
MK42 9AZ

Beds Prostate Cancer Support Group will have an awareness stand along with relevant literature and Group members to answer any questions.

Car parking at venue.

For further details contact:
Brian Webb 01234 767256
Steve Pearce 01234 960414
Trevor Sinclair 07916 169083

Prostate Cancer UK is a registered charity in England and Wales (100041) and in Scotland (SC038893).
Registered company number 2020887

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TUESDAYS

**St Mark's Church
& Community Centre**

Calder Rise, Off Avon Drive
Brickhill, Bedford

9.30 am & 11.30 am

3.30 pm, 5.30 pm & 7.30 pm

Contact:

Lorrie 01234 340 473

slimmingworld.co.uk

0344 897 8000

