

BRICKHILL NEWS

Ashmead Road

The newsletter of Brickhill Parish Council

Issue 62

December 2019

Woodlands Park news – from Mark Fitzpatrick, Chair of Brickhill Parish Council

The delay in completing the adoption of the remainder of Woodlands Park is one of the biggest ongoing concerns for the parish council. We have received the following update from the Borough: *“Bedford Borough Council have been working with Persimmon Homes and Taylor Wimpey to progress the adoption of the Country Park, playgrounds and open space areas within the Woodlands Development. We are now in the very final stages of the adoption process, with just one final legal document outstanding which the council is chasing. The Council therefore hopes to have the adoption finalised over the next few months, albeit we are putting the pressure on for this side of Christmas”.*

After another accident in Ashmead Road, near the junction with Bramley Way, the parish council is asking the borough to look at that section of road, to see what could be done to improve safety.

I am sorry to say that Chris Bailes has stood down as a parish councillor for Woodlands Park. He was diligent in chasing for progress, to get the outstanding issues ('snagging list') for the Woodlands Park estate resolved, as well as taking a key role in the process we followed to decide how the 'Ravensden money' should be spent, as well as the council's Planning Committee and more besides. Michael Jarman-Webb continues as the other parish councillor for Woodlands Park and the vacancy should be filled in early 2020.

Other Parish Council News.....

Retirement of Assistant Clerk, Mrs Alison Southern The parish council is saddened to report that Alison has taken early retirement. She has worked for the parish council and the residents of Brickhill since 2006 and has been responsible for the success of many of the projects the parish council has been involved in including Gathering on the Green and as the editor of this newsletter. Over the years, as Allotments Officer, she built up a excellent working and supportive relationship with its tenants. We are all sorry to see her leave.



Neighbourhood Plan for Brickhill

Residents are invited to get involved in the first steps in creating a Neighbourhood Plan for Brickhill.

The aim of the plan is to set out a vision for our community for the next 10 years.

What's good and needs enhancing?

What's bad and needs tackling?

Neighbourhood Plans can look at housing, transport, green infrastructure and more.

We need your support to make this happen. To find out more please come along to our meeting in:

The Biffa Room, St Mark's Church and Community Centre, Calder Rise at 7.30pm on Monday 13th January

or email clerk@brickhillparishcouncil.gov.uk to let us know of your interest.



**The Tree
Lights**

on Waveney Green

**will be switched on by Santa
on:**

**Wednesday 4th December at
6pm**

**The Lions will be bringing Santa on
his sleigh and Scott Primary School
will be singing a Christmas song**

All Welcome!!

For more information,

contact the Parish Clerk 01234 271708

clerk@brickhillparishcouncil.gov.uk

BRICKHILL
PARISH COUNCIL

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



BRICKHILL
PARISH COUNCIL

Dates for your diary.....

- ♦ **4th December at 6pm on Waveney Green:** Christmas lights switched on
- ♦ **Free Spring Tea for the over 65 yrs:** Date to be confirmed.

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 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

Office Hours

Monday—Thursday 10am—2pm

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.

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.

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. **Next Copy deadline is 31st January 2020.**

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



Our country is going through a time of real turmoil and the political stalemate has created a vacuum into which has come some very distasteful behaviour. Brexit has affected all of our lives not just politically but also economically and socially. People are reluctant to make plans as we all lack confidence about the future. Brexit has divided families as well as the wider community. We are pleased to tell you that the acrimony in national politics is not reflected in our local politics and all councillors have continued to show respect and work together.

As your local councillors, we promise you our commitment to continue to do our very best to work for everybody in our community, whatever the future may bring. Bedford is a place in which diversity has been welcomed and celebrated and the coming together of people of different nationalities and religions has only served to enrich this place in which we live. It is our hope that Bedford can be an example for the rest of our country so that we can soon rebuild integrity and trust in our national life and be united in our commitment to serve one another for the common good.

If you would like to find out more about one of the nationalities that has added such a great deal to life in Bedford, why not go to The Higgins in Castle Lane to see the 'Poland: in Bedford' exhibition? Explore the stories of Bedford's Polish community in celebration of the 100th anniversary of Polish Independence. Follow their experiences of early life in Poland, memories of migration, journeys to Britain and life after settling in Bedford.

As your local councillors we will continue to work hard and keep you informed through regular deliveries of FOCUS, surgeries and our website where you can sign up for our Brickhill newsletter. www.puttingbrickhillfirst.com

Wendy Rider, 23 Orwell Close, 01234 03254 wendyrider41@gmail.com

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

Winter Cycling in Brickhill and Elsewhere

Darker nights are now with us. To be safe as a cyclist it is important for you and your bicycle to be seen. Wear bright or fluorescent clothing. Children should wear cycle helmets although it is a personal choice for adults. Although your bicycle should be maintained properly all year round please ensure particularly during the winter months that:



- Both tyres are in good condition. Worn tyres are more prone to punctures and slipping on greasy roads.
- Brake blocks are not worn down. Modern brake blocks and rims in wet weather will wear out faster. Please check brakes each time

before setting out.

- As there is more dirt on the road during the winter and also salt both chain and gear shifts should be kept regularly oiled to prevent rusting.
- Both front and rear lights are working. Two rear lights, one flashing, are useful in case one goes out while cycling. You may be able to see the motorist, but will they be able to see you? (see the video 'See and be Seen')

<https://www.youtube.com/embed/YqPfcuw7AxU> - 'To see ourselves as others see us').

Need to contact the police? There are lots of different ways to make reports to the police; 101 for non-emergency, our online reporting tool, our webchat service and of course in cases of emergency, or if a crime is in progress, call 999. To just give us some information about suspicious activity or something similar, you can also contact me directly. I am the officer for Brickhill and De Parys and my email is charlie.crozier@Bedfordshire.Pnn.Police.uk and there is also a PCSO for the area who works closely with me emma-jo.muggridge@bedfordshire.pnn.police.uk

Park Wood Local Nature Reserve.....

The season of change

Autumn brings dramatic changes in the Reserve. The warm, wet conditions are to the liking of our fungi which throw up spore-producing fruiting bodies in great abundance at this time. Our soils will require many decades of recuperation and nourishment before they become fully mature woodland soils with their own populations of symbiotic mycorrhizal fungi, so essential for the well-being of our trees. For the time being we have good populations of saprophytic fungi (those that break down dead organic matter) such as the brittlestems (*Psathyrella* spp. – pictured).



The influx of winter thrushes became apparent in the middle of October, with flocks of redwings (*Turdus iliacus*) feeding on the Reserve's berries. They arrive from the colder climes of Scandinavia, Iceland and Russia. Fieldfares (*T. pilaris* – pictured) join them and will also feast on the orchard windfalls. You may also notice many more blackbirds than were apparent in the summer, as continental birds join our residents.

Brambling (*Fringilla montifringilla*), another winter visitor, is a close relative of the chaffinch. Particularly large influxes occur when it is a poor year for beech mast on the continent. These birds will remain with us for the winter and by early spring the males will be looking particularly handsome with their jet black heads.

Brickhill Lower School Football ClubHelp needed

Brickhill Parish Council recently gave a grant of £520 to Brickhill Lower School Football Club for new kit. The photo shows some of the younger club members aged 5 and 6 years in the new kit. These young players (14 in total) will soon be playing their first matches against other clubs. Their manager, Harbinder Sangha, was funded by the club and as a result has gained his FA Level 1 coaching certificate.



Brickhill Lower School Football Club provides a great local opportunity for youngsters to get exercise and enjoy and develop their football skills as well as develop great life skills through working as a team. But to keep going it needs adults to give up their time. We are looking for a **new Chairperson and Club Secretary**. By July

2020 I will have served as Chairman for three years and as my son moves on to the next age group it is time for me to step aside for a new Club Chairperson and Club Secretary to join the club and take it forward into the future. Without these volunteers there is **real risk that the club will fold at the end of this year**. If you are interested or want more information, please contact me, Howard Phillips at chairman.blfc@gmail.com.

For information on how your group can apply for a grant from the parish council please see page 8.



Christmas Carol Concert

Kempston Musical Society, together with Bedford Road Lower School Choir, will be performing a selection of Christmas carols and festive music on Saturday 14th December at Kempston East Methodist Church. The concert will start at 7.30pm. and tickets will cost £7.50 on the door, which will include refreshments.



This concert is guaranteed to get you in the mood for Christmas.

To find out more about all our forthcoming concerts or information about the choir please call 01234 781010 or email prestissimo@btinternet.com.



CARING FOR OUR COMMUNITY

We have the privilege of joining together in caring for our community by providing local people in crisis with hampers during the Christmas holidays.

YOU CAN HELP

- Get a box and wrap it
- Buy the food
- Bring it in the open box

**Sunday 8th December, 3pm - 6pm or
Tuesday 10th December, 4pm - 6pm**
All Nations Church, Brickhill Drive,
Bedford, MK41 7QF

FAMILY SHOPPING LIST

- | | | | |
|-------------------------|----------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| ○ Tinned Potatoes (1ge) | ○ Tinned Fruit | ○ Christmas Pudding | ○ Mayonnaise |
| ○ Tinned Carrots (1ge) | ○ Coca-cola/Lemonade | ○ Carton of Custard | ○ Savoury Biscuits |
| ○ Tinned Peas (1ge) | ○ Squash | ○ Gravy Granules | ○ Box of Chocolates |
| ○ Tinned Ham (1ge) | ○ Tea/Coffee | ○ Mince Pies | ○ 2 Selection Boxes |
| ○ Tinned Tuna | ○ Soup | ○ Stuffing Mix | ○ Crisps |

www.allnationsbedford.org/christmasinabox
christmasinabox@allnationsbedford.org



St Mark's Church Christmas 2019

Calder Rise, Brickhill

Sunday 1 December

9.30am Christingle Service

A favourite with children and adults alike as we decorate oranges. We launch our appeal for Justus - for the homeless

Saturday 21 December

6.30pm Carols in the Car Park

Free mulled wine and mince pies with Bedford Town Band.

Tuesday 24 December Christmas Eve

3.00pm Children's Crib Service

6.30pm Carols by Candlelight and Bedford Town Band.

11.30pm Midnight Mass by Candlelight

Wednesday 25 December Christmas Day

9.30am Family Morning Worship

A perfect start to Christmas

For more information www.stmarkschurch.com



Brickhill Community Centre.....

Brickhill's very own Community Centre is located on Avon Drive and is always a popular venue, but we do have the occasional slots for hire. Whether you are a small group or wanting to stage a one-off event or children's party, why not give our friendly Booking Manager a call to see if we can accommodate your needs.



Our main hall can accommodate 80 people whilst our subsidiary hall can accommodate 60 people. Both come with appropriate furniture and kitchen facilities.

In addition, we have two small rooms specifically for meetings and the like. We can accommodate a regular booking or a one off.



Brickhill Community Centre is owned by Bedford Borough Council and is let on a long-term lease to Brickhill Parish Council. Through an agreement between Brickhill Parish Council and the Brickhill Community Association, the Management Committee of the Association operates and manages the Centre for the benefit of the Brickhill community. The Association, which is a charity, is able to ensure that any profits are retained within the community.



If you are interested in hiring Brickhill Community Centre or require any further information, please contact Sue Woodcraft on 01234 312332 The office is open on a Tuesday and Friday between the hours of 10.00am – 4.00pm.



Christmas Services

Posada Navideña / Hispanic Nativity
Saturday 7th December, 5.00pm



The Posadas Navideñas, which recall events leading up to the Nativity of Jesus, are a centrepiece of our Spanish-Latin American community at All Nations Church. Watch as children dress up and re-enact the story of Mary and Joseph's search for an inn on their way to Bethlehem.

The Living Nativity
Saturday 14th December, 4.00pm.

The Living Nativity is a recreation of the beloved nativity scene. This is our way of sharing with the community the reality of Christ's birth. Come along and share in the joy of Christmas. With farm animals, carols, children's craft activities, mince pies, mulled wine, and a visit from Santa.

Carol Service
Sunday 15th December, 6.00pm.

A Carol Service for all the family.

Christmas Day Service
Wednesday 25th December, 10.00am



Join us as we celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ on this our Christmas Day Service.

News from Scott Primary.....

On Wednesday 30th October, parents at Scott Primary were invited into school for a mathematics evening designed to inform them about how arithmetic, problem- solving and reasoning are taught in our school. During the event, our Calculation Policy was shared.



Parents were also provided with ideas of how to support their children's mathematical development at home and were shown the abundance of resources we have on our website to support the children's learning.

We were delighted with the fabulous attendance. Our parents are clearly very keen to support their children's learning.



Parents were then invited into school during the morning of Friday 1st November for a 'Maths in Action' morning. Parents were able to sit in their children's maths lessons and see first- hand how mathematics works in their year groups. They saw a range of strategies progressing through the school, such as the use of practical resources, number-lines and formal written methods. The children were so excited to see familiar faces in their lessons and really enjoyed being able to share their learning and understanding with their parents.

Feedback was again very positive with over 100 parents attending the morning. Many thanks to all of those who came.





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Does your group need resources or financial support?

Did you realise that the parish council offer grants???



If you run a group or activity or take part in one which serves or has members who live in Brickhill, you can apply for a grant. The parish council recently gave a grant of £244.65 to Brickhill Rainbows,

Guides and Rangers towards the cost of resources to deliver a new programme. As you can see on page 4, our most recent allocation was £520 towards new football kit. An application form and information about the criteria for awarding grants can be found on the parish council website or contact the Parish Clerk (see page 2)

Orange Recycling Bags

If you need some more orange recycling bags these are stocked at St Mark's Church. We do try to keep stocks but it is not always possible so **please call 01234 342613 to check availability before you**





St Mark's Church Bereavement Support

St Mark's Church Community Centre, Calder Rise, Bedford, MK41 7UY
01234 342613 www.stmarkschurch.com Charity Number 1164416

First Wednesday every month, St Mark's at 11.00am

Tea, coffee and chat

Losing somebody you love is devastating and the pain can feel unbearable, like your world is falling apart. Everybody experiences grief differently but usually it helps to share what you are going through with others in a similar situation. You might feel that you are all alone and struggling to cope, but if you meet with others who are going through the same feelings, you can find strength and support to go on.

This is a free service offered by people who care. There is no need to book - just turn up.



There's rosemary, that's for remembrance; pray you, love, remember. And there is pansies, that's for thoughts. - William Shakespeare



Future dates:
Wednesday 11 December
Wednesday 15 January
3.45 to 5.30pm
St Mark's Church, Calder Rise

What is Messy Church?

- * An afternoon of creative fun for children of primary school age and their carers.
- * A new way for all ages to engage with God.
- * There is a different Bible based theme each month.
- * This is developed through craft activities, songs and a short talk.
- * The afternoon ends with a freshly prepared meal for everyone.
- * Children must be accompanied by an adult.

When is Messy Church? Third Wednesday of month 3.45pm ends 5.30pm (except December when it is the second Wednesday)

How much will it cost? Donation of £1 per person

Do I need to pre book? Phone the church (01234 342613) before the day, or just turn up.

Focus on: Bedford Food Bank

To find out more about how you can access this vital service and a local point for collection of food parcels please visit:

<https://bedford.foodbank.org.uk/>
or telephone 01234 268569

There are local drop off points for donations at St Marks and All Nations—check the website for any special supplies or food items needed.

Following the recent experience in Brickhill.....

Would you like to see a strengthening of police powers to tackle unauthorised Encampments?

The home office is undertaking a consultation open now until the 5th March 2020 and wants your views.

Please provide your response to:

<https://www.homeofficesurveys.homeoffice.gov.uk/s/11E15/>

For full details of the consultation, please see the parish council website or facebook



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Email: ryangascoynephg@gmail.com



Brickhill

Monday
Afternoons
1:15pm

Wednesday
Mornings
9:30am

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 7th December
Brickhill Drive shops Saturday 21st
December

See our website

www.puttingbrickhillfirst.com

For details of surgeries and the latest
Brickhill news

YOGA

Brickhill Community Centre
Mondays 6.30 - 7.45pm

St. Cuthberts Hall
Wednesdays 7-8pm

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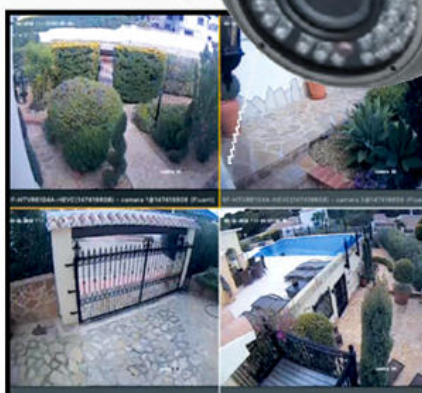
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TUESDAYS

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   

