

BRICKHILL NEWS

The newsletter of Brickhill Parish Council

Issue 49

May 2017

Bedford Borough Council Local Plan 2035

Planning is a dry topic, but this Local Plan will affect our area for ever. It covers a variety of topics, but most significantly it looks at what development should take place in the Borough between 2021 and 2035, including sites for housing, retail and employment. It also includes the process for deciding what areas should be kept as green space.

Developers and landowners were asked to suggest sites which could be developed. The only site directly within Brickhill is the agricultural field at the very north of the parish, which has been proposed to be included within the suggested new large village centered on the old RAE Wind Tunnel site. However there are also other sites very close to Brickhill, which would either overlook existing neighbourhoods (such as the 500 home proposal for Graze Hill, directly across the brook from Woodlands Park) or affect traffic through Brickhill (such as other proposed sites in Ravensden, which would increase traffic on Brickhill's roads).

Brickhill Parish Council will be discussing its response to the consultation on the Local Plan at its meeting on 1st June. We have invited a representative of the developer of the Wind Tunnel Site to address the meeting and answer questions. Please do come along.

More information is available from www.bedford.gov.uk/localplan2035. Leaflets are also available from the borough council offices or Putnoe Library. The consultation period ends on 9th June.



Contents Page

Page 1	Local Plan
Page 1	Community Governance Review
Page 1	Gathering on the Green
Page 2	Councillor Contact Details
Page 2	New parish councillor for North Ward
Page 3	Brickhill bus service
Page 3	Scott Lower School
Page 3	Neighbourhood Development Plan
Page 3	Community Safety Forum
Page 4	Brickhill Spring Tea
Page 4	Summer Walks in Bedford
Page 4	Road safety initiative
Page 4	Borough Councillors report
Page 5	Brickhill Community Centre
	Summer activities
Page 5	St Thomas More
Page 5	Advertisements
Page 6	Advertisements
Page 7	Advertisements
Page 8	Advertisements

Community Governance Review for Brickhill and Clapham

Thank you to everyone who sent in their views to the Borough. We await the official results but it looks as if the clear majority of those who responded in Brickhill supported the proposal to move St Thomas More School and the remaining part of Ashmead Road into Brickhill.

SAVE THE DATE

Gathering on the Green

Saturday 8th July

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.

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

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



New Councillor for North Ward

Brickhill Parish Council is delighted to welcome Lynne Seymour as the new councillor for Brickhill North Ward. A few words from Lynne - I relocated from Buckinghamshire to Brickhill, Bedford in 1975 and I am married with 2 daughters. I have been an active member of St Marks Church and Community Centre since the late 1970's and was the first Church Centre Manager when the concept was born and privileged to have been on the initial team to develop the Garden of Remembrance.



News from Scott Lower School

It has been another busy term at Scott Lower School. Over the past few weeks our Year 4 children have been Celts for the day, living and exploring in the woods, Year 3 have been on a faith tour of Bedford visiting a church, a mosque and a synagogue. The children in Year 2 had a circus performer in for the day teaching juggling, balancing and other circus tricks whilst Year 1 learnt African drumming and found out about toys from the past at the Higgins Museum. Our Reception classes enjoyed a fabulous stay and play session, where parents came into school and joined in the fun with their children, and the Nursery were lucky enough to have some new born chicks come in to see them. On top of all that we've had the Bedford Blues in to teach rugby, MK Dons in for football sessions and we have two new arrivals, Toffee and Fudge the rabbits!



The future looks as bright and busy as ever, as we move towards becoming Scott Primary School. We are very excited about all the new facilities we'll be able to offer our children including dedicated science labs, IT suites, a sports gym and acres of playing fields and woodlands.

We are very much looking forward to the term ahead of us and even more exciting times once September arrives and we officially become Scott Primary School.

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Brickhill Bus Service Enhancement

Grant Palmer, the family owned local bus operator, has shown faith in the residents of Brickhill by enhancing its route No 21 to hourly during the daytime from Woodlands Park to the town centre via Larkway and Kimbolton Road (convenient for the North Wing Hospital).

From 2nd May 2017 there has been a doubling of services from 4/5 to 8 times per day on Mondays to Fridays and 9 times on Saturdays excluding Bank Holidays. This gives, with the existing services No 20 (3x) to the railway station, No 22 (x1) to the town centre via Larkway, Brickhill Drive and Roff Avenue (continuing to Sainsbury's Clapham Road on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays) and No 28 (x1) via Woodlands Park roundabout, a total of 13 services on Mondays to Fridays and 10 on Saturdays. The change also enhances the eastern side of Brickhill, the 'Larkway area' which already has the regular parallel Kimbolton Road service No 28 and in the south east, the Stagecoach No 7 and No 10. Please use these services to ensure that they continue and help reduce the town's congestion and pollution problems.

A convenient leaflet on the times at Woodlands Park and in the Larkway area can be downloaded from the Parish Council's website - www.brickhillparishcouncil.gov.uk

Full timetables are available at a number of outlets and can be seen on the Stagecoach, Grant Palmer and Bedford Borough Council websites.

Cllr Peter Blakeman

Brickhill Community Safety Forum

Wednesday 31st May - 7pm
St Mark's Church Community Centre

Guest speaker from Trading Standards



Orange Recycling Bags

If you need some more orange recycling bags these are now available in the Foyer at St Mark's Church

Neighbourhood Development Plan

A working group has been set up to consider this. It has now had its second meeting. It is looking at the possibility of bringing in professional support with the initial part of the plan, which includes a significant consultation exercise with local residents, to find out the detailed views of the Brickhill community. If you want to get involved, please contact Councillor Mark Fitzpatrick.

Brickhill Borough Councillors Update May 2017

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Charles Royden charlesroyden@gmail.com 01234 309175



Contrary to reports in local press the new town centre Vue cinema is on schedule to open in July. The surrounding retail units have already been handed over by developers for fitting out to restaurants like Wagamama, Bella Italia, and Zizzi. This £36 million investment in our town centre by businesses is already having an impact on the local economy. The Harpur Centre has been taken over by new owners who are delighted to have invested in Bedford and have just announced a multi million investment in redeveloping the Harpur Centre as a premier shopping destination.

On a less positive note Bedford Hospital is being considered alongside Luton and Milton Keynes for closures, but councillors spoke of the current review failing to listen and having already spent vast amounts on consultants. Mayor Dave Hodgson is continuing to lead the fight to keep Bedford Hospital open, especially the Accident and Emergency, Maternity and Children's units, which have all been placed under threat. In Bedford we have worked hard to encourage tremendous growth in jobs and the local community and we are seeing a real boost in our housing. Now is not the time to close essential hospital services as a result of brutal government cuts.

We are always pleased to speak with you and you are welcome to come to our regular surgeries at the shops on a Saturday morning, as advertised on our website. For more information on what is happening in and around Brickhill and to keep in touch please visit our website www.puttingbrickhillfirst.com

BRICKHILL SPRING TEA

On the afternoon of Friday 28th April Brickhill Parish Council hosted a Spring Tea for local senior citizens. The event attracted over 60 parishioners from Brickhill who thoroughly enjoyed the afternoon tea and cakes supplied by Doreen Lambert Catering. John Lee provided the entertainment and did a fantastic job taking requests to ensure everyone's favourite songs were played.



Lets Walk—Summer evenings around Bedford commencing June 21st

A mixture of urban and countryside walks ideal for the long summer evenings. Some walks are almost entirely on surfaced paths whilst others are across fields and uneven ground. Most are stile free. These 9 Led walks are between 2 hours and 2.5 hours duration (4 to 5.5 miles.)

All walks are free just turn up. June walk starts at 9pm, July & August walks start at 7pm.

For more information contact Barry Ingram 01234 353704 or email barry.ingram74@btinternet.com
Full programme can be found at www.brickhillparishcouncil.gov.uk—see the latest news section.

Brickhill Parish Council supporting road safety initiative

St Thomas More staff were delighted with their new High Visibility Jackets! The jackets were a welcome gesture of support for the duty team on Kennet Rise.

Local residents had requested more visibility for the staff as they patrol the safe exit of the students from the school site. Each evening staff are present outside of the school in different places across the exit road. Students then leave safely and cyclists are supervised using the path to the end of Kennet Rise.

The jackets are labelled on the back with Brickhill Parish Council and caused quite a stir among the students when they were first worn on Monday 8th May.

We are all very grateful to Brickhill Parish Council for this kind gesture.



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Email: ryangascoynephg@gmail.com

Brickhill Community Centre Management Committee is offering Summer Holiday activities for the younger members of our community. We are delighted that Sandford School of Dance who run classes at the Community Centre, are running the following activities on our behalf.

All sessions are offered at only £1.00

Monday 7th August - Modern Dance

1:00 - 2:00pm 3-5 year olds
2:00 - 3:00pm 6-8 year olds
3:00 - 4:00pm 9-11 year olds

Tuesday 8th August - Ballet

1:00 - 2:00pm 3-5 year olds
2:00 - 3:00pm 6-8 year olds
3:00 - 4:00pm 9-11 year olds

Wednesday 9th August - Acrobatics

2:00 - 3:00pm 6-8 year olds
3:00 - 4:00pm 9-11 year olds

For more information or to book any of the above classes, please contact Sue Stewart the Centre Manager at Brickhill Community Centre on a Tuesday or Friday between 10.00am and 4.00pm on 01234 312332 or contact us by email: brickhillcommunitycentre@goolemail

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please contact

07902 123 726 keepingstill@gmail.com

Diversity and the St Thomas More Community



Here at St Thomas More School we are so fortunate to be involved in many far reaching and diverse initiatives. The progress our students make from Year 6 to GCSE, places us top of the Bedford league table and our Diocese. The DfE recently sent a letter acknowledging STM as being in the top 5% of the 6382 schools listed. Our Teaching School provides many exciting courses allowing us to cascade new teaching initiatives and share best practice across the country.

We are currently hosting 9 Chinese students who are here for eight weeks and our Dutch exchange student programme is now in its 4th year! Our school community is enjoying welcoming our overseas visitors and learning about their school life and cultural differences.

Our 6th form students are participating in the Young Enterprise initiative selling products they designed themselves with amazing results. Recently ex pupil Ryan Harper has been elected as Chair of Bedford Borough Youth Cabinet, where he will lead campaigns that will benefit young people throughout the Borough.

All of this and much more ... all within our school community!

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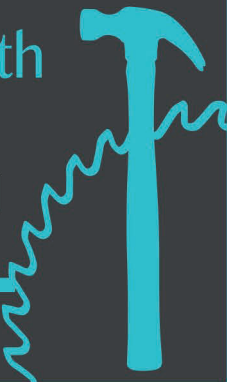
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Brickhill Help and Advice



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 10th June

& Avon Drive shops Saturday 27th May

See our website

www.puttingbrickhillfirst.com

For details of surgeries and the latest
Brickhill news



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- Wednesday 09:30am-10:30am
Brickhill Community centre,
Avon Drive Bedford, MK41 7AF
- Friday 10:00am-11:00am ST
Johns Ambulance hall,
Wellingborough road, Olney
MK46 5AF



Contact: Chantell on

Tel: 07743004519 or

Email cmcfitness28@gmail.com

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Full Plot £52.00 Concessionary £26.00

Half Plot £30.00 Concessionary £20.00

Please contact the Allotments Officer for
further details:

Brickhill Parish Council, c/o St Mark's
Church Community Centre, Calder Rise,
Bedford MK41 7UY Tel: 01234 271708 or
email clerk@brickhillparishcouncil.gov.uk



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TUESDAYS

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& Community Centre**

Calder Rise, Off Avon Drive
Brickhill, Bedford

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3.30 pm, 5.30 pm & 7.30 pm

Contact:

Lorrie 01234 340 473

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