

BRICKHILL NEWS

The newsletter of Brickhill Parish Council

Issue 41

May 2015

Election News—At the elections on May 7th, three existing councillors stood down: Andy Wilkins, Ray Waterhouse and Dean Crofts. Councillor Mark Fitzpatrick, chair of Brickhill Parish Council said: “Andy and Ray have served on the Parish Council since it was set up in 2004. Dean joined more recently but made a significant contribution, especially on the Youth Innovation Zone project. I want to thank them all for their contribution to Brickhill and the parish council”.

The other nine existing councillors all stood for re-election and were joined by Vince Holloway and Chris Bailes. All 11 were automatically elected as the number of seats to be filled was either the same as the number of candidates (as happened in North Ward) or there were fewer candidates than the number of places for each area. There are therefore 4 vacancies to be filled by co-option. If you are interested in standing, please contact the Clerk if you would like to find out more. Potential candidates should send in a personal statement by 31st May 2015, with the council deciding who to co-opt at its meeting on 4th June. The vacancies are: South & West ward (2), East ward (1), Woodlands Park ward (1).

Woodlands Park Funds— The working group of Woodlands Park residents and parish councillors is continuing to develop suggestions for how the £20,000 transferred from Ravensden Parish Council can be used. The working group wants to hold an event in Woodlands Park on Saturday 23rd May, between 10am and 2pm, to give residents the chance to learn more about some of the suggestions. Residents will be asked to indicate what their preferences are.

Summer holiday activities for 7-12 year olds

The parish council are running three Summer activity sessions for 7-12 year olds (children must live in Brick-hill which now includes Woodlands Park). The activities take place Tuesday's 9am—1pm and offer excellent value for money at only £5.00 per child per session.

4th August—Football Skills & Tournament Play (meet at Scott Lower School)

11th —Laser Clay Pigeon Shooting & Crossbows (meet at Scott Lower School) maximum 20 spaces

18th—Battlefield Live (Marston Forest Centre) transport is provided from Scott Lower School

To reserve your place telephone Brickhill Parish Council on 01234 271708. Bookings must be confirmed and paid within 5 days of booking (BACS payments now being accepted). Download your booking form from our website at www.brickhillparishcouncil.gov.uk.

The picture below was taken at the Easter activity “Wild Survival” in Park Wood nature reserve



News from Brickhill Parish Council

At the Annual Parish Meeting in April, a common theme expressed by some of the groups present was the importance of volunteers: Brickhill Rainbows, Brownies and Guides, Brickhill Good Neighbour Scheme, Brickhill Lower School Football Club, the Friends of Park Wood Nature Reserve, the Friends of Mowsbury Hillfort and Putnoe Wood – all rely on volunteers. Some of the organisations need more volunteers to help them grow. It could be worthwhile taking a coordinated approach to encouraging volunteering in Brickhill. If you have views on this or any other item in Brickhill News, please do get in touch.



At the meeting we also heard from the Headteachers of Scott Lower, Beauchamp Middle and St Thomas More Upper schools. It was really encouraging to hear of the academic progress being made at the schools, as well as their efforts to minimise their impact on nearby residents.

Mark Fitzpatrick, Chairman

BRICKHILL PARISH COUNCILLORS

EAST WARD

Cllr Mark Fitzpatrick (*Chair*)

20 Nursery Gardens, Bedford MK41 8DU

☎01234 357259 📧markfitzp@cix.co.uk

Cllr Peter Blakeman (*Planning Committee Chair*)

15 Dove Road, Bedford MK41 7AA

☎01234 355952 📧pj.blakeman@btopenworld.com

Cllr Alex Chrusciak

1c Falcon Avenue, Bedford MK41 7DS

☎01234 350884 📧almo5000@hotmail.co.uk

NORTH WARD

Cllr Linda Darbon

57 Douglas Road, Bedford MK41 7YF

☎01234 325962 📧lindadarbon@googlemail.com

Cllr Vincent Holloway

6 Petteril Walk, Bedford MK41 7XJ

☎01234 214533 📧vholloway1975@hotmail.co.uk

Cllr Corinne Royden

The Vicarage, Calder Rise, Bedford MK41 7UY

☎01234 309175 📧corinneroyden@gmail.com

Cllr Charles Royden

The Vicarage, Calder Rise, Bedford MK41 7UY

☎01234 309175 📧charlesroyden@gmail.com

WOODLANDS PARK WARD

Cllr Chris Bailes

16 Sturmer Road

Bedford MK41 7FJ

☎07525 166313 📧cbailes78@gmail.com

SOUTH AND WEST WARD

Cllr Ann Reeve

7 Orwell Close, Bedford MK41 7BQ

☎01234 343260 📧ar_reeve1@sky.com

Cllr Wendy Rider

23 Orwell Close, Bedford MK41 7BQ

☎01234 303254 📧wendyrider41@gmail.com

Cllr Cathrine Ward

8 Starling Way, Bedford MK41 7HW

☎01234 295951 📧mahovoward@yahoo.co.uk

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, Bedford MK41 7UY

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

Sue Bottoms, Clerk to the Council

Brickhill Community Centre, Avon Drive, Bedford, MK41 7AF ☎01234 271708

📧clerk@brickhillparishcouncil.gov.uk

BRICKHILL 
PARISH COUNCIL



News from Beauchamp Middle School

A busy couple of months since the last news report from Beauchamp. Undoubtedly our foremost priority is to provide a first class education for our pupils. All members of staff work hard as a team to build upon our successful school as well as offering pupils the opportunity to learn through out of classroom experiences and educational trips that ultimately extends their skill-sets.

We welcomed Paul Pibworth, a local artist to work with a group of pupils to create a sculpture for our Reception area. This working partnership came about when we signed up for the Bedford Cultural Challenge and as a school we are actively working towards Artsmark Status for the provision of dance, drama, visual arts and music.

Miss Lill, Year 5 Teacher has been on a marathon mission to raise money for the charity Children with Cancer UK. Whilst in training for the London Marathon she insisted she had some encouragement from her pupils and organised a fancy dress fun run. A whopping £835 was raised by Beauchamp pupils. Miss Lill ran the London Marathon in 4 hours, 3 minutes and 15 seconds – well done Miss!

As part of our Gifted and Talented provision we had another successful visit from two Senior Managers from Ernst & Young. Pupils gave presentations on their business ideas, slogans and logos and answered many thought-provoking questions. It was a very challenging session and encouraged pupils out of their comfort zones. The business ideas ranged from companies that could improve people's lifestyles, health and fitness, home improvement to homes, regeneration of trees/plants, human rights within the workplace and futuristic food, being a few examples. Ernst & Young gave pupils a memento from the day, with winners having an additional prize for their outstanding presentations. We have a new look to our website and having changed service provider we are busy updating the information. Follow us on Twitter @BeauchampMiddle or visit our website for further information and news www.beauchampschool.co.uk.



Brickhill Community Association - AGM on 9th June at 7pm

Brickhill Community Centre is leased to Brickhill Parish Council, but is run on a day-to-day basis by Brickhill Community Association (BCA). The

Association is free for all residents of Brickhill Parish to join. In addition to running the Community Centre, the Association has developed a wider remit, by sponsoring a ride at the annual Gathering on the Green event and also by organising an annual Christmas Entertainment for senior citizens. The AGM of the Association takes place at the Community Centre in Avon Drive at 7pm on Tuesday 9th June. All are welcome at the meeting, but in order to vote at the AGM you must join in advance. If interested, please contact Ray Waterhouse on 01234 355801.

Details about Brickhill Community Centre including information about the facilities, regular hirers, booking information and charges can be found on the parish council website see link below:

www.brickhillparishcouncil.gov.uk/community/community_centre.html.



News from Scott Lower School



In April the children thoroughly enjoyed an amazing visit from The Animal Experience company. The children were introduced to a range of animals including snakes, a water dragon, barn owl and two cheeky meerkats. The children discovered lots of interesting information about the animals and got to touch and handle the animals. They all had a fantastic experience and it was wonderful to see the change from them entering the room unsure of what they would find, to leaving with a wonderful experience and having learned lots of interesting animal facts.

Scott Lower School will be hosting its very own "Scott's Got Talent" shortly, this will celebrate and promote our children's performing arts skills. The audience and judges alike will be very impressed, I am sure, by the wide range of talent on show! We will have singers, dancers, musicians, magicians and comedians, to name but a few! "Scott's Got Talent" is the talk of the school at the moment. It never ceases to amaze me exactly how much talent our children have.

Anita Barker, Headteacher

Community Speed Watch—making Brickhill's roads safer

A number of local residents have been carrying out Community Speed Watch events on Brickhill's roads. They normally carry out checks every six weeks, with the aim is to ensure that vehicles travel within the speed limits. If you would like to volunteer for Speedwatch please email speedwatch@bedfordshire.pnn.police.uk. There is a free short training session. Once trained, you can play a full role in making Brickhill's roads safer. More information about Community Speed Watch is available here: www.bedfordshire.police.uk/tackling_crime/watch_schemes/speed_watch.aspx.

Community Speed Watch in action in Tyne Crescent



ST THOMAS MORE YEAR 9 DISTRICT CUP CHAMPIONS

Our year 9 pupils competed in the Year 9 District Cup finals against Redborne School. It was an exciting match that saw St Thomas More led the way in the first half 2:0. Redborne went on to equalize by scoring two goals in the second half leading to a nerve wracking extra time, during which St Thomas More scored the winning goal to win the cup 3:2.

Coach Rhys Allen: 'We are extremely proud of our Year 9 team. They have worked incredibly hard and it was a fantastic win for them last night. Thank you to all those who came along to support the team. They have already set their sights on going one better and winning the county cup next year!'

Here are our winning team! Congratulations!

Congratulations to our goal scorers were Dylan Asonganyi & Fraelias Mienambolo and a special mention to Lewis Ziccardi who was an absolute star as goalkeeper! The team was well supported by friends, family and staff from across the Bedford Catholic Schools. For more information please contact Rhys Allen on 01234 400222 alternatively please email lisamarysanderson@yahoo.co.uk or to see the full story visit the parish council website



News from Park Wood Local Nature Reserve

It has been a busy year on the reserve and anyone who has had a stroll around this north Brickhill site since last July will, I hope, have been impressed by the new carved oak feature bench. It is sited to give a panoramic view over the school fields to the horse paddocks beyond. This, together with the new bridge over the stream was funded by a National Lottery award.



This spring we are beginning to see the rewards of our wild flower planting. Wild daffodils are flowering in the community orchard and the snowdrop display is improving each year. As I write, lesser celandines and primroses are in bloom, soon to be followed by bluebells and wild garlic. In the wild flower mini-meadow below the orchard, yellow rattle has been planted. This is a partial parasite of grass and should, over coming years, help other flowers establish themselves.

The Friends Group spent a couple of mornings in February pruning the apple and pear trees in the orchard area. The orchard contains many varieties that are not easily obtained elsewhere. It is managed for the benefit of human visitors as well as for wildlife. Information boards are now in place and soon a Facebook page will be available for people to find out more about the orchard and the rest of the reserve.

RVS Social Club for over 60s

The Women's Royal Voluntary Service (WRVS) has run a Social Club for over 60s at Brickhill Community Centre in Avon Drive on Tuesdays for many years. The main organiser, Mrs Pat Folkes, has stood down now, with a new team taking over.

Meanwhile the WRVS has renamed itself to Royal Voluntary Service. The Social Club is open to both men and women from 2pm-4pm on Tuesdays; come along for a game of bingo, a raffle, swap a book or film, play scrabble, cards or just for a chat. It costs just £1.50 a week, which includes a cup of tea and piece of cake. For more information or if you are interested in attending call either Maureen on 01234 910146 or Catherina on 01234 305767.



News from Brickhill Lower School



We've had a really busy 6 months at Brickhill Lower and in November last year we had a highly successful OFSTED inspection. The school achieved high ratings in all key areas with standards and the achievement levels of pupils continuing to meet the objectives set by the school and inspectors.

So what else have we been doing? Well, Year 4 pupils have been learning about transport during the spring term and enjoyed a visit to the London Transport Museum in March. In keeping with the transport theme the children travelled to London by train and then used the Underground to get to the museum. Year 3 pupils have been learning about the Iron Age and enjoyed a trip to Flag Fen in Cambridge.

On 13th March the school joined in with Red Nose Day and the children were invited to "Wear Something Funny For Money". This raised over £500 and the staff joined in by having their faces painted by the children! Our new classroom was opened by the Mayor of Bedford, Dave Hodgson. The classroom is called The Nest to fit in with the Brickhill bird theme. The new room is spacious, stylish, bright and airy, and is a much needed facility for the growing school. We welcome prospective parents to take a tour around our school and see our excellent facilities, if you would like to arrange this please call the school office on 01234 401404.

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Scott Lower School can offer a wide range of facilities to meet your requirements. If you need a single meeting room, the school hall or even the school field we can help and prices start from only £15 per hour.

Call Richard on 01234 352630 or email Richard@scottlower.co.uk to enquire about using our school hall and premises.

We look forward to hearing from you.

WE NEED YOU!!!

Brickhill Good Neighbours Scheme is looking for volunteers. There are opportunities to help out with the administration of the scheme and/or to help our clients directly. How much time you give is up to you, usually only a few hours per month and our volunteers say it is very rewarding.

Perhaps you are a Brickhill resident and need some help? Why not get in touch to see if we can help? If we can't help we might know someone that can. Visit our facebook page for more information www.facebook.com/BedfordBGNS or give us a call on 07445 594050 for more information. We are looking forward to hearing from you.

Brickhill Community Safety Forum

"Dog fouling—what can be done about it?"
With speakers from Bedford Borough Council
Wednesday 17th June, 7:30pm-9pm

Wren Room, St Mark's Church Community Centre, Calder Rise, Brickhill.



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AVON DRIVE, BEDFORD, MK41 7AF

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*From 13th April 2015

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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

Local surgeries taking place at:

**Brickhill Drive Saturday 23rd May & 20th
June at 10am**

**& Avon Drive Saturday 6th June and 4th
July at 10am**

See our website

www.puttingbrickhillfirst.com

Gathering on the Green

Saturday 18th July

11am—3pm

Waveney Green

Remember to save this date in your diary. This is the parish council's annual family event. You can be sure there will be lots for the children to do including face painting, bouncy castles, bungee trampolining, mini carousel rides, arts & crafts and two magic shows. In addition this year we will be joined by Mike's Line Dancing, Falcon Gymnastics, Bedford Belly Dancers and a local dance group.

We look forward to seeing you there.

Brickhill Community Clean Up

Saturday 13th June

10am—12 noon


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

**Come and join us and help make a
difference to your local community. All
equipment is provided. Please ring
Brickhill Parish Council on 01234
271708 for more information or just
turn up to help with litter picking.**

Together we can make a difference!

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