



Green Borough Fair

Bedford Borough Council held its first ever Green Borough Fair on Sunday 6th February at St Mark's Church Community Centre. The event was an opportunity for local organisations who share an interest in all things "green" to showcase their work and network with like minded individuals and organisations. St Thomas More Upper School has launched a brand new project this year: a BTEC Level 1 course in construction. One of their first tasks has been making nest boxes. Boxes are for sale at £5 from St Thomas More (tel 400222). Thanks to the Centre Manager and volunteers from the WI who ran the refreshment stall. We raised over £100 for this year's Brickhill in Bloom.



Anthony and Matthew from St Thomas More with Mayor of Bedford Borough Dave Hodgson and Cllr Mark Fitzpatrick, Chair of Brickhill Parish Council.

Brickhill Community Asset Transfers

You may have heard that Bedford Borough Council is considering "disposing" of Waveney Green and Brickhill Community Centre. Your Parish Council has consistently been concerned to keep Waveney Green open space as an area of public use and enjoyment. The Parish Council wants to safeguard the future of the open space and give local people more of a say about how it is used and managed. So the Parish Council is negotiating with Bedford Borough Council for transfer of responsibility for this community asset by means of a 99 year lease.

If the transfer goes ahead the Borough Council will still own the land but will lease it to the Parish Council at a peppercorn rent. The Parish Council is also in the process of negotiating a long lease for Brickhill Community Centre from the Borough on

similar terms. Again the aim is to give local people more direct control over what happens to the assets in their community. It is planned that these transfers will be financially neutral as far as the residents of Brickhill are concerned. At the moment residents pay for the upkeep of these facilities through their Borough Council Tax. If the transfer goes ahead the cost of these services will simply be deducted from the Borough Council Tax and added to the Parish Council Precept which is collected by the Borough and then passed on to the Parish Council. The Parish Council believes it can deliver these services cost effectively and efficiently. If you'd like more information about this or if you have any other queries use the contact details on the back page and talk to your councillors.

Brickhill in Bloom

After our great success in 2010 when we won an Outstanding Award for the local neighbourhood Brickhill in Bloom wants to do even better and is entering a higher level in the competition. We are looking for groups and volunteers who'd like to join the Brickhill in Bloom group. It doesn't involve coming to boring meetings its just about showcasing all the fantastic gardening and environmental work that's going on in our community. The Parish Council is co-ordinating this year's campaign for the group, if you'd like to be included contact us using the details on the back page. We have a smart new logo created for us by children at Scott Lower School who took part in last year's competition with their chickens and school garden. Don't be left out, whether you're an individual gardener, a business or a group why not talk to us about your green projects and be included in our portfolio?



Do your feet need some TLC?

**Home visits to treat corns,
verruccas, hard skin, bunions etc.**

**Please phone Michael Cooke
Foothealth Professional**



01234 300188

07881 820788

mick_cooke@ntlworld.com

Brickhill Diary

Free Food Hygiene Level 2 Course
A 3 week course for unemployed adults
Starting Friday 4th March 9:30-1:30
Crèche available

- Understand the importance of food safety
- Learn about Food Hygiene at home and work
- Gain a recognised Level 2 qualification
- Understand how to control food safety risks



Contact Pine Cones Children's Centre,
Slade Walk, Bedford MK41 7SA

St Thomas More Cluster
Extended Services

Community Tree Planting in Woodlands Park—Sunday 13th March 2011 1 - 4 pm



Come and help to plant trees in Woodlands Park. Park on Ashmead Road if driving and walk up to Anjulita Court then follow the track around to the right of the old peoples home. Tree planting will be in this area to the north of Anjulita Court. All equipment will be provided, stout footwear recommended. Event **will** go ahead if raining! Contact Kim Norris ☎ Kim.Norris@bpha.org.uk or

Did you or someone you know go to Brickhill Lower School?

This year Brickhill Lower is celebrating its 50th Anniversary. We have lots of fun events planned for the children currently at the school – the circus came to visit in September, the whole school is going on a trip and we hope to have a street party as a grand finale.

Annual June Fayre Saturday 18 June

This year we would love to see past pupils and staff coming along to see what the school is like now and to meet up with old school friends. It's a great chance to reminisce about what is often described as, 'the best days of your life'. We look forward to seeing you.



News from Scott Lower School

The School Council visited Highfield House in Brickhill to share stories with the residents there. The children really enjoyed reading books with the residents and the residents had a lovely time hearing our children read. "A great time was had by all" said Anita Barker, Head teacher, Scott Lower School.



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for
North Bedfordshire**

Web: www.ccnb.org.uk Tel: (01234) 355952

**If you are new to cycling
please also visit
www.cyclebedford.org.uk/brickhill**

**Do look after someone who is ill,
frail or has a disability?**

Whether they are a relative or friend, and the work you do is unpaid **then you are a carer.**

**Join us on
Wednesday 9 March
10-12 pm
Brickhill Community Centre
Avon Drive, Brickhill**

The Carers Support Bureau, part of BRCC, is holding an information & advice drop-in session for carers at the above location. As well as being able to obtain information and support we will also be offering blood pressure checks, signposting to other services and light refreshments.

If you can't make the day, but would like some support, then call us on free phone 0800 039 1234 or you can email us at csb@bedsrcc.org.uk or go online to www.bedsrcc.org.uk



Brickhill Sustainable Community Plan Progress Report

The Steering Group and the Bedford Borough Partnership agencies have continue to work on the Brickhill Sustainable Community Plan. The draft plan will be submitted to the Bedford Partnership Board on 17th March 2011 for their consideration. Watch out for publication of the plan on the Brickhill Parish Council website soon!

2011 Census : What do I need to do?



The next Census will take place on 27 March 2011. Every household in England and Wales needs to complete a questionnaire so that statistics about the population can be produced. Government money for health, police, principal councils and other public service providers is allocated according to the population of an area, so it is vital that everyone is counted. Make sure your area gets its fair share of Government money. Questionnaires will be delivered from 7th March so look out for the purple logo, and complete and return the form as soon as you can. More information at www.census.gov.uk or www.bedford.gov.uk.

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Mobile 07940 755718



Brickhill Parish Council Staff Vacancy Clerk/Responsible Financial Officer

Applications are invited for the post of Clerk to Brickhill Parish Council. We are looking for a motivated and proactive person ideally with previous local government experience to take on the role of Clerk to the council. The post is 32 hours p/w with potential to become full-time in the future. The workplace is St Mark's Community Centre. Applicants must demonstrate commitment to community development together with sound administrative, financial and business management skills. Applicants must be computer literate. The role also requires good interpersonal and communication skills and the ability to provide objective and impartial advice to members. Salary within the NALC/SLCC agreed pay scale range SCP 26-34 (£22,221 – £28,836 pa if full time) depending on experience. For an application pack please email clerk@brickhillparishcouncil.gov.uk or ring 01234 271708 for more information.

Allotment Contractor

We are looking for a local self-employed contractor to undertake plot clearances, odd jobs and grounds maintenance work at Brickhill Allotments. Contact the Council for further details (see back page).

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Brickhill Parish Councillors

EAST WARD

Cllr Mark Fitzpatrick (*Chair*)

20 Nursery Gardens, Brickhill, MK41 8DU

☎01234 357259 ✉markfitzp@cix.co.uk

Cllr Peter Blakeman (*Planning Committee Chair*)

15 Dove Road, Brickhill, MK41 7AA

☎01234 355952

✉pj.blakeman@btopenworld.com

Cllr Gurmel Chambers

16 Trent Road, Bedford MK41 7EF

☎01234 212536

✉CHAMBERSB2B@aol.com

Cllr Joanne Laybourn

32 Curlew Crescent, Brickhill MK41 7HX

Please contact via Parish Council Office

SOUTH AND WEST WARD

Cllr Stuart Buchanan

19 Starling Way, Brickhill MK41 7YF

✉stuart_buchanan1@sky.com

☎0844 567 6806

Cllr Stuart Green

39 Larkway, Brickhill, MK41 7JW

☎01234 354339

✉stuart.green5938@ntlworld.com

Cllr Pat Ovenell

12 Nightingale Avenue, Brickhill, MK41 7JB

☎01234 341422

Cllr Wendy Rider (*also Borough Councillor*)

23 Orwell Close, Brickhill, MK41 7BQ

☎01234 303254 ✉wendyrider41@gmail.com

Cllr Raymond Waterhouse

64 Curlew Crescent, Brickhill MK41 7HZ

☎01234 355801

✉raymond.waterhouse@yahoo.co.uk

NORTH WARD

Cllr Patricia Marriott

18 Leven Walk, Brickhill MK41 7XE

☎07818 052363

✉patm1958@hotmail.com

Cllr Charles Royden (*also Borough Councillor*)

The Vicarage, Calder Rise, Brickhill, MK41 7UY

☎01234 309175 ✉vicar@thisischurch.com

Cllr Ray Seymour (*Vice-Chair*)

11 Calder Rise, Brickhill, MK41 7UY

☎01234 305695 ✉rays@tgis.co.uk

Cllr Andrew Wilkins

33 Douglas Road, Brickhill MK41 7YF

☎01234 308957

✉andywilkins.bpc@ntlworld.com

Brickhill Parish Council

Acting Clerk: **Alison Southern**

c/o St Mark's Community Centre,

Calder Rise, Bedford MK41 7 UY

Email: clerk@brickhillparishcouncil.gov.uk

Website: www.brickhillparishcouncil.gov.uk

Telephone: 01234 271708



Public drop-in every Tuesday morning at St Mark's Community Centre between 10 am and 12 noon. The officers are also available by prior appointment at other times.

Councillor surgeries 7 pm to 7.30 pm before every full Parish Council meeting and on Saturday mornings (see noticeboards at Avon and Brickhill Drive Shops for details).

Parish Council meetings and committee meetings are open to the public who are very welcome to observe. A limited time for the public to address the council is also included, but time is very restricted. Please contact the Clerk if you would like information about how to participate in this session. For less formal opportunities to engage in discussion with the council contact the Clerk or attend a surgery.

Full Parish Council meetings 7.30 pm

3 March, 7 April, 12 May, 2 June

Planning Committee meetings 6pm

10 March, 14 April, 19 May, 9 June, 14 July

All meetings are held at St Mark's Community Centre and advertised on our noticeboards and website.

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