



BRICKHILL NEWS

The newsletter of Brickhill Parish Council

Issue 48

January 2017

News from the Chairman

Just before Christmas, the Parish Council was sad to learn of the death of Cllr Nick Carter. Nick had only joined the council recently, being co-opted earlier in 2016. He had made a strong contribution to the Council in the short time he was a member. His fellow councillors contributed donations to the PEPS team at St John's, Moggerhanger, in his memory.

At our meeting in early January, the Parish Council set its budget for 2017/18, with Council Tax increasing for a Band D property from £33.09 to £33.99, a 2.7% increase. A big part of the increase was to cover the shortfall caused by the reduction in Council Tax Support Grant. The Parish Council continues to look after Waveney Green, Brickhill Community Centre and Brickhill Allotments. Repairs to items such as the footpaths on Waveney Green are not cheap! There is still funding for events such as 'Gathering on the Green' in the summer, a spring tea dance for senior citizens and support for play schemes at Easter and in the Summer, for local groups such as the Brickhill Good Neighbours Scheme and the Community Safety Forum. We know many residents are on a tight budget and we are working hard to get value for money, while still aiming to do our best to make Brickhill a great place to live.

Elsewhere in this newsletter there is information about forthcoming meetings of the Working Group for the Neighbourhood Development Plan, of the Community Safety Forum and about the latest stage of the Community Governance Review. Do get involved, come along or respond! If I can highlight the Community Governance Review in particular: this may seem to be an issue that does not significantly affect you, but the proposed changes logically follow on from Woodlands Park joining Brickhill Parish in 2015 and it will make it easier to deal with issues affecting the area that is proposed to be transferred in future.

Cllr Mark Fitzpatrick

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Annual Parish Meeting

Thursday 16th March at 7:30pm

**St Mark's Church, Calder Rise,
Brickhill**

ALL WELCOME

**Come along and find out what has
been going on in Brickhill and plans
for the future**

New Parish Councillor for Brickhill - Antonie Koch

Brickhill is a wonderful area with many opportunities but for Woodlands Park my two priorities are (a) to tackle a number of highways matters which have raised a number of concerns and (b) help speed up and finally resolve the adoption process which is holding up a number of improvements to the area. My family and I have been living in Woodlands Park for the past 6 and a half years and I believe a strong integrated community that cares for everyone is what we need and hopefully I can play a small part in building it.



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 James Cross

☎07490 367607 ✉james.cross@live.co.uk

Cllr Tim Retout

☎01234 307998 ✉tim@retout.co.uk

NORTH WARD

Cllr Vincent Holloway

☎01234 214533

✉vholloway1975@hotmail.co.uk

Cllr Corinne Royden

☎01234 309175 ✉corinneroyden@gmail.com

Cllr Charles Royden

☎01234 309175 ✉charlesroyden@gmail.com

WOODLANDS PARK WARD

Cllr Chris Bailes

☎07525 166313 ✉cbailes78@gmail.com

Cllr Antonie Koch

☎07577 907959 ✉antoniekoch@icloud.com



SOUTH AND WEST WARD

Cllr Mark Bowler

☎07855 851266 ✉markbrickhill@gmail.com

Cllr Morris Johns

☎01234 217364 ✉morrisjohns@yahoo.co.uk

Cllr Ann Reeve

☎01234 343260 ✉r_reeve1@sky.com

Cllr Wendy Rider

☎01234 303254 ✉wendyrider41@gmail.com

Cllr Cathrine Ward

☎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, Brickhill MK41 7UY

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

**Sue Bottoms,
Clerk to the Council**

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

☎01234 271708

✉clerk@brickhillparishcouncil.gov.uk



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Incredible success for St Thomas More

We are top of the Bedford league tables for Progress 8!
Progress 8 measures the progress of all students from every school in England from Year 6 through to GCSE and we are delighted that STM secured the top spot in Bedford. St Thomas More also has the best progress results of our Diocese. The national picture is equally as exciting putting STM in the top 5% of the 6382 schools listed!
A massive Well Done to all the school community.



BRICKHILL GOOD NEIGHBOURS SCHEME News for Sept to Dec 2016

This was quite a busy time mainly due to all the requests to attend Christmas parties! Of course we do also offer short-term or occasional help with transport to other social events, essential shopping, health-related appointments, also prescription collection etc. We have several volunteers who would love to do some 'befriending', or we could help with small household jobs. In fact we will consider any reasonable request – please call us if you require any assistance, on **07445 594050**. If no reply, please leave your name & number on the answerphone & we will call you back as soon as we can, usually the same day. We are always looking for more volunteer drivers; if you think you can help us please do call to have a chat.

News from Brickhill Community Centre Association

The Brickhill Community Centre Association's 2016 free Christmas party for senior citizens was a great success. As usual every place was taken. Billy Keyes entertained the guests with his unique brand of song and humour. There was a wide choice of raffle prizes mostly donated by members of the local community, and the festive food was much appreciated.

We have received many thank-yous and even reservation requests for next year's party which will be held on Tuesday 5th December 2017!

During the coming year we hope to sponsor some activities for our younger residents, which will be advertised in due course.

Watch Scott Grow!

New Primary School opening September 2017 in your catchment area!

I am delighted and very excited to be the Headteacher of **Scott Primary School** when we will officially open our doors in September 2017. Our school will provide children aged 3 years old up to age 11 with a caring and nurturing environment, giving each individual the opportunity to learn and grow through a creative and exciting curriculum, which will build the firm foundations for a successful and happy life.

Anita Barker, Headteacher

What will Scott Primary offer?

- Nursery setting for children aged from 3 years
- **NEW** and vibrant learning spaces for children starting school in Reception classes
- Excellent sports facilities including a gymnasium
- Music Suite, Art Studio, Science Laboratories, Design Technology and Home Economics rooms
- Nurture provision with dedicated staff
- Beginning of 3 form entry conversion



For more information please visit our website under the **"Becoming Scott Primary"** tab or do not hesitate to get in touch, we would love to speak to you.

Scott Primary School
Hawk Drive
Bedford
MK41 7JA
01234 352630

www.scottflower.co.uk

office@scottflower.co.uk

Brickhill Borough Councillors Update November 2016

Wendy Rider wendyrider41@gmail.com, 01234 309175

Charles Royden charlesroyden@gmail.com 01234 309175



Wendy Rider and Charles Royden have been long standing campaigners against the development of Freemans Common in Brickhill. Our 'No More Bricks in Brickhill' campaign opposed more housing on this important green space which stretches across the rear of Hamble Road and up Cleat Hill. It has been submitted for housing development by the trustees. We will do everything in our power to once more oppose this and Mayor Dave Hodgson also expressed his opposition to development of Freemans Common at the last full council meeting.

It is important that we all take pride in Brickhill and we work hard to make sure that it remains a great place to live. We are especially pleased with the new fountain in the pond on Brickhill Drive which we had installed using our ward funds. We have asked for this to be illuminated with LED lights at night and we hope that this will take place soon.

We are always pleased to hear from residents about any issues of concern, or come along to one of our regular surgeries at the shops:

Avon Drive Saturday 4th March 10am Brickhill Drive Saturday 18th March 10am

Lots more information on our website www.puttingbrickhillfirst.com

St Thomas More Travel Plan

Brickhill Parish Council is continuing to seek improvements in road safety in the Tyne Crescent area. St Thomas More School has a School Travel Plan; the parish council has been working with the school for several years to see the full implementation of the travel plan and help cut the risk of injury to students. Progress has been made, with the special No. 6 bus service that starts from the school, now starting from within the school grounds. Staff are monitoring the approaches to the school and doing their best to encourage parents to be responsible. The parish is arranging a meeting with the school, police and borough council staff to see what else could be done to improve safety further.

Brickhill Community Clean Up

Saturday 11th March

2pm

Meet outside Beauchamp Middle School,
Hawk Drive

Please come along 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 the litter picking.

Together we can make a difference!

Spring Tea for over 65s (free entry)

Friday 28th April

2pm—4pm

St Mark's Church, Calder Rise

If you live in Brickhill and are aged over 65 please come and join us for afternoon tea and entertainment.

To reserve your free space contact the council offices on 01234 271708 or email clerk@brickhillparishcouncil.gov.uk

Funded by Brickhill Parish Council

VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED

Brickhill Parish Council are looking for volunteers to help deliver our newsletter. Brickhill News is published 5 times per year and delivered to every household within the Parish. This means we need lots of volunteers—could this be you? If you could deliver to a few local streets near to where you live and can spare an hour please contact our Clerk - details are on page 2. Thank You.

Brickhill Scouts

Brickhill Beavers, Cubs and Scouts are delighted with their new fence, kindly funded by The Harpur Trust. Access to our Scout HQ had become precarious as a result of some demolition work next door; this fence has been an ideal solution and will allow us to continue our outdoor activities, cooking and campfires safely. Many thanks to The Harpur Trust for making this possible.

Brickhill Scout Group currently has vacancies for leaders and helpers across all age ranges. If you are interested in joining us please get in contact via scouts@brickhillscouts.org.uk



Parish council Easter activities

Activities for young people aged 7-12 years

Wednesday 5th April—Battlefield Live

Wednesday 12th April—Bushcraft (den building and campfires)

Our activity camps are run by Sport Support Group and take place from 9am—1pm at only £7.50 per session. We have 25 spaces available for each activity. To book your place contact the parish council on 01234 271708 or email us at clerk@brickhillparishcouncil.gov.uk

Waveney Green update

Last year the parish council undertook work to improve the wildflower area near to Falcon Avenue. We were delighted to have a lovely display of wildflowers including corn chamomile, corn cockles, cornflower, corn marigold and poppies. This year we plan to double the size of the wildflower area and work will take place during March. The parish council were asked to provide alternative surfacing under the toddler play equipment which in the winter months was very muddy and occasionally waterlogged. The parish council paid for rubber mulch matting which has proved to be a great success. In addition, the council have agreed to fund 5 new pieces of outdoor gym equipment for Waveney Green. This will be located adjacent to the existing play area and will be suitable for older children and adults. We hope to have this installed after Easter.

Brickhill Community Safety Forum

Wednesday 22nd March, 7pm,
Wren Room, St Mark's Church Community Centre, Calder Rise

Your chance to raise any concerns about crime or community safety issues in Brickhill. The latest crime statistics will be reviewed, as well as a topical safety tip. Speaker to be confirmed. Tea and coffee available at the start of the meeting.

Biddenham Upper School Bus Service

Most of Brickhill lies in the catchment area of Biddenham Upper School. The decision of Stagecoach to cancel their three school bus services came as a shock and caused anxiety and inconvenience to both parents and students. A meeting was held at Biddenham Upper School in January, chaired by Mr Bailey, the Headteacher. Cllr Mark Fitzpatrick attended, representing Brickhill Parish Council. The school has organised a trial service with Diamond Coaches until February half-term; if there is sufficient demand it will continue afterwards. If you have any concerns or comments please contact the Parish Council offices at clerk@brickhillparishcouncil.gov.uk or telephone 01234 271708.

Neighbourhood Development Plan

The second meeting of the Working Group takes place on Wednesday 15th March, 7pm-9pm in the Biffa Room at St Mark's Church Community Centre, Calder Rise. The aim of the Plan is to create a vision for Brickhill, to consider how our area should develop over the years to come. If you are interested in taking part, please contact Cllr Mark Fitzpatrick (tel: 01234 357259, email: mark.x.fitzpatrick@gmail.com).

Are you a local business looking to advertise?

Brickhill News is delivered to all households within the parish of Brickhill (approximately 4000) and is published 5 times per year.

A 1/4 page advert costs only £30.00 and a series discount of 10% applies if you book 4 consecutive insertions.

Please contact the parish council on 01234 271708 to place your advert or email us at clerk@brickhillparishcouncil.gov.uk

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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 18th March
& Avon Drive shops Saturday 4th March**

See our website

www.puttingbrickhillfirst.com

For details of surgeries and the latest
Brickhill news



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- Monday 1:15pm-2:15pm
Brickhill Community centre,
Avon Drive Bedford, MK41 7AF
- 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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Allotments, Fosters Brow, off
Brickhill Drive. Priority is given to
Brickhill residents (proof of address
will be required) and our rates are
as follows:

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

**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

*Lauren reached
her dream weight -
read her story online*

Lauren
before



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