

**Brickhill Borough Councillors
Update
September 2022
From Wendy Rider and
Charles Royden**



Telephone Mast Applications

Wendy and Charles are pleased that following their objection to the telephone mast on the green opposite Tesco on Brickhill Drive, the application has been refused by Bedford Borough Council. The Planning Application 22/01548/TELPN was for the installation of Fifth Generation (5G) equipment, comprising an H3G street pole and additional equipment cabinets.



The application would have seen more cabinets and a huge new telephone mast on an important green recreation area, only a short distance away from an already existing mast. We believe that telephone companies must work together to use existing sites and stop the proliferation of equipment all over our community. They must also consult with communities before making applications for these new giant masts and not when they have already made up their minds where they want to put them.

We welcome the common sense refusal by Bedford Borough Council in a move which offers protection for one of our valuable green areas.



Bottle Bank Ashmead Road

Thank you to those residents who have been in touch to say how much they appreciate the new bottle bank on Woodlands Park. Bedford Borough Council supported our request and it has proved to be very popular with residents who have said that they appreciate having the facility within walking distance.



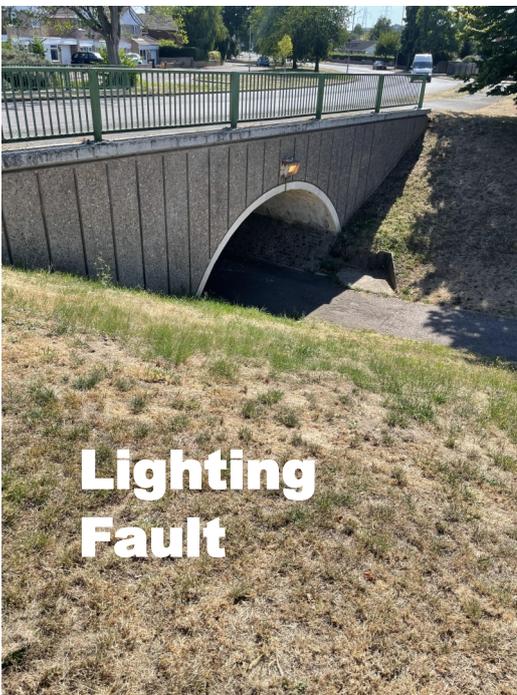
Pigeon Shooting

Residents have complained to us about the shooting of pigeons around Mowsbury Walk. This happened a few years ago and we circulated a photo of somebody killing a pigeon with an air rifle and the shooting stopped. It has started again and a resident reported one shooting at 10am in the morning. Please contact us if you have any information or report to the police.

Pavement Repairs The drought has caused the cracking of pavements around Brickhill where clay has shrunk. We have asked Bedford Borough Council to look at ways of making repairs as quickly as possible, including at this location on Mowsbury Walk.

Lighting faults

We recently reported this light on the underpass at Avon Drive which was malfunctioning. The mechanism on the light was broken and it has now been repaired. Please let us know if you see any lighting faults or report them direct online at www.bedford.gov.uk



Jobs Boost for Bedford

Over the last month Mayor Dave Hodgson has welcomed a number of new businesses who have made Bedford Borough their home and are creating new jobs locally. Mayor Dave has made it a priority to ensure the Borough supports new opportunities for business, jobs and skills development following the pandemic.

There have been a wide variety of companies that have recently moved to Bedford Borough. Mayor Dave recently opened Symbiosis Care's new Head Office. Symbiosis Care provide care, support and quality accommodation

for adults with mental health and/or learning disabilities who historically have had many placement breakdowns and long secure psychiatric hospital stays. Their expansion has also resulted in new jobs for a number of Bedfordians.

Mayor Dave welcomed IDC's new Menu Fresh Service to the Borough. Based at Fuse in Wixams Menu Fresh is a new and exciting service designed for independent restaurants, hotels, and gastro pubs. They have a simple ordering service for the reliable delivery of high quality, local food, all at very competitive prices.

Charles will open the new European headquarters of Fuji this month on Cardington Road, an opportunity to celebrate a major investment in Bedford Borough.

Mayor Dave also helped to launch Evios' new HQ building in Stewartby Business Park. Evios

designs, manufactures and distributes electric vehicle charging points for homes and business locations. Their arrival adds to the growing number of companies operating in the green energy and manufacturing sector locally and creating job opportunities for local people. Bedford Borough has great potential thanks to our fantastic education and skills development centres. It is our job to help unlock this potential by supporting new businesses and promoting the Borough wherever we can. One of the ways we have done this is through the Jobs Hub. The Council's Jobs Hub has been influential in helping people into work and it recently marked its 10th anniversary. In the last ten years the Jobs Hub has provided advice and support to over 50,000 people and helped over 4,000 people into work, education and self-employment. You can find out more about the Jobs Hub at <https://www.bedford.gov.uk/jobs-and-careers/jobs-hub/>.

Come and see us at our surgeries

Brickhill Drive Shops 3 September 10.00am

Avon Drive Shops 17 September 10.00am

Brickhill Drive Shops 1 October 10.00am

You can also speak with us or another Lib Dem Councillor every Saturday morning 11.00am - 12 noon at Bedford Central Library

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

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