## De Parys Borough Councillors Update to Brickhill Parish Council

October 2023

The area of Brickhill Parish that falls within De Parys Ward is best summarised as Brickhill Drive, Robin Hill, Rooksmead, Mallard Hill, and Eagle Gardens and Goldcrest Way.



Councillors Henry Vann and David Sawyer

**Rooksmead pond:** We are concerned about the state of the Brickhill Drive/Rooksmead pond, there are extensive reeds and some form of algae, which smells unpleasant, we have requested the Council to carry out an inspection and commission appropriate remedial work.

**Sewer in Brickhill Drive:** We have received reports about a smelly sewer and a tree causing damage in the upper section of Brickhill Drive and an inspection is underway.

Drug dealing and anti-social behaviour. The Police are now aware of anti-social behaviour and other issues taking place both in relation to drug-dealing taking place up cemetery hill between Foster Hill Road and Manton Heights and also on Brickhill Drive at the northern end, including Mallard Hill. They are asked us to encourage people to contact 101 (or 999 if appropriate) or make reports online and if any specific addresses or registration numbers of vehicles are known, please either report them directly or contact us and we will share these confidentially with the community policing team.

**Tennis Courts.** The Council are planning to reduce the number of courts at Bedford Park from 9 to just 3 and charge for access as part of a deal to secure Lawn Tennis Association funding (LTA) to restore the courts. Whilst this investment may be welcome, it cannot come at the cost of ending free tennis courts and reducing the capacity so dramatically. We will be pressing for free courts to be protected (even if some investment goes ahead).

We have launched a petition on this matter and would welcome support: <a href="https://www.bedfordlibdems.org.uk/petitions/save-bedford-park-tennis-courts">https://www.bedfordlibdems.org.uk/petitions/save-bedford-park-tennis-courts</a>

**Ward Fund.** We are funding the Christmas lighting in Brickhill Drive and a new dropped kerb on Brickhill Drive at the southern-most junction with Mallard Hill. We will continue to campaign for safer junctions and crossing and welcome any other suggestions.

## **Surgeries in September and October 2023**

- Brickhill Drive Shops Saturday 14 October 10am\*
- Shaldon Court Saturday 14 October 1pm
- Budgens Saturday 14 October 2pm
- Brickhill Drive Shops Saturday 11 November 10.00am\*
- Chiltern Avenue shops 11 November 1pm
- Fox & Hounds on Goldington Road 2pm

\*shared with Brickhill Ward Borough Councillors

You can also speak with us or another Lib Dem Councillor every Saturday morning 10:00am – 11:00am at Bedford Central Library.

**Email communication.** We do try to keep residents up-to-date with developments in the ward area with our email list as a quicker alternative to FOCUS. If you have not yet signed up for this yet then please do so as this is the best way for us to keep in touch with local news. We won't bombard you and you can unsubscribe at any time. Sign up here: www.bedfordlibdems.org.uk/sign-up

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## Working all year round not just at election time!