

April 2024



**Brickhill Borough Councillors
Charles Royden & Wendy Rider**

Borough Cllr Update To Brickhill Parish Council



Brickhill Drive Shops

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We have expressed our dismay at the length of time it is taking to complete the repairs to the paving at Brickhill Drive shops. The work has not even started and it has been months awaiting action. We will continue to pursue action with the council until it is completed. We are also awaiting an update regarding our request to fix and upgrade the lighting on both shopping parades.



**Carron Road
Litter**

Carron Road Waste Collections

We are in dialogue with the council over issue relating to litter and waste on Carron Road. Refuse bags are sometimes not collected, occasionally the wrong waste is put out and sometimes waste blows or animals open the bags etc. There is also ongoing fly tipping which we have reported.

Avon Drive roundabout

We are delighted to have received the appreciation of many residents regarding our planting of the roundabout on Avon Drive. This is funded from our councillor ward funds and we hope to continue to maintain the roundabout which is seen by all of our residents in Brickhill. If you have any ideas of other locations which would benefit from attention please do get in touch



Progress Updates

Drain / Sewer maintenance on Hawk Drive and Avon Drive We continue to press the council and Anglian Water to resolve the issues with drainage. We will alert residents when we have dates for the works to begin. We have also sought to resolve the flooding on Stour Way with attention to the ditches on Hawk Drive which are the property of the Borough Council and need to be maintained.

Adoption of Woodlands Park We are working with the council, developers and residents to move along the outstanding issues. We will report any progress on our website

Roads Maintenance We are concerned that the council is not making adequate repairs to our roads and we see increasing numbers of potholes which take long times to repair. Numerous roads across Brickhill require urgent attention and we encourage the Parish Council to lend weight to our requests for better attention to Brickhill Roads.

Parking outside Schools We continue to work with residents to alleviate the problems caused by inconsiderate parents parking unlawfully. Restrictions have been introduced in Blythe Close and a 'no verge parking zone' will be introduced in Wansbeck Road. In addition we have asked Bedford Borough Council to expedite the installation of cameras to enforce the school street in Kennet Rise. We have been assured that this will take place shortly - we will update when we have further news.

Dog Bins There have been issues with these not being emptied and we have reported this to the council and asked for frequent attention



Telegraph Poles

We have received communications from many residents about the installation of telegraph poles. The following information may be helpful to residents if they are located in Brickhill and residents should contact us immediately if they have any concerns should these be introduced in proximity to their property.

INCA Briefing - - Telegraph Poles As you may be aware, existing internet provisions provided by copper networks are being phased out, meaning that it is essential that new infrastructure is built and made available to communities up and down the country. Put simply, every property in the UK needs to have a new fibre-optic cable installed into it as soon as possible, hence why you may have seen new telegraph poles being built in your communities – network providers are working at pace to deliver faster broadband for residents and businesses. Whilst the use of existing infrastructure is preferred, sometimes it is not possible to do so – sometimes the existing

infrastructure is not available, is damaged or existing regulations make it impossible to use. In such scenarios, the least disruptive option is often to install a new pole from which the new fibre-optic cables can be attached to surrounding properties. The alternative to this is to dig and for infrastructure to be built underground. Whilst this may appear at the outset to be preferable, it is not often understood that this process is slower, more expensive and would involve digging up streets, causing disruption within the community, as well as digging up residents' driveways and gardens to connect properties. The importance of fixed-telecoms within your community cannot be understated. It is linking residents with all corners of the country and providing better access to public services. In light of the old copper networks being withdrawn, it is imperative that network operators act, whether that be through existing infrastructure above or below ground or installing new poles. INCA is acutely aware of concerns from members of the public regarding new poles being built in their neighbourhoods and we are actively looking at mechanisms whereby infrastructure can be shared, but in the meantime, it must be noted that if a community rejects a new pole, the internet provision for that neighbourhood may be delayed. We hope this background information will prove useful in explaining the situation with residents in your communities. Should you wish to discuss further, please contact liam.sheanon@inca.coop or visit www.inca.coop and we will be happy to help. About INCA The Independent Networks Cooperative Association (INCA) is the leading UK trade association representing organisations deploying independent digital infrastructure. Founded in 2010, INCA aims to foster a new approach to digital infrastructure, focusing on full fibre (FTTP) and high quality wireless broadband whilst campaigning for the policy and regulatory support needed to maintain a healthy, competitive market

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Help us keep in touch

It is always helpful to be able to inform residents with updates via our email list and 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

Please remember we always try and respond to residents the same day or within 24hrs.
If you haven't had a reply to an email please call us because they can go astray.



Wendy Rider



Charles Royden

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Surgery at Woodlands Park



We would be pleased to meet you at our surgeries

Avon Drive Shops 6 April at 10.00am
Brickhill Drive Shops 20 April at 10.00am
Avon Drive Shops 4 May at 10.00am
Brickhill Drive Shops 18 May at 10.00am

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

Sign up to get our regular local email updates
www.bedfordlibdems.org.uk/sign-up

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Working all year round not just at election time !