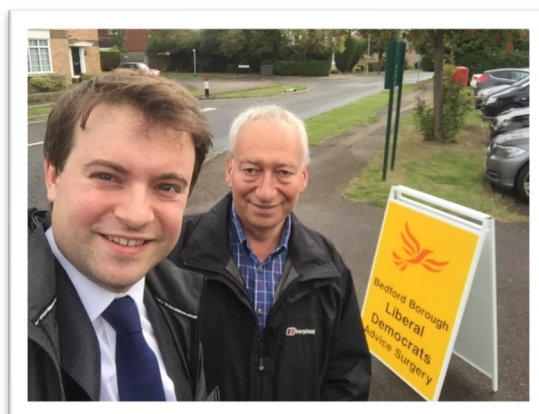


De Parys Borough Councillors Update to Brickhill Parish Council

June 2024

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

Parish report. This is a regular report from the Liberal Democrat Group on Bedford Borough Council and updates on more general activity. It should be circulated to Parish Councillors for information and if you have any questions, please do direct them to Henry. It is attached at the bottom of this report.

1. Current developments

Successes! The path on Mallard Hill has been cleaned, a dropped kerb installed at the southern junction between Mallard Hill and Brickhill Drive, and lines repainted in Rooksmead. **Suggestions from the Parish always welcome!** Improvements along the lower section of Brickhill Drive, including cutting back vegetation, weeding and tidying the footpath borders, following a resident meeting. **We are always happy to meet residents to discuss their concerns.** **In progress.** We have written to the Council repeatedly regarding the barriers still in place in Brickhill Drive shops.

2. Updates on any previous items

Tennis Courts in Bedford Park. Following the announcement in January of the establishment of pay tennis courts in Bedford Park, we presented our petition and a supporting motion to reinstate turn-up-and-play courts to Full Council in February. Although our motion was supported by Full Council, the new pay courts are now being developed, but we are still campaigning for additional turn-up-and-play courts and discussing with the Council how this can be achieved.

Drug dealing and anti-social behaviour. The Police are aware of continuing anti-social behaviour. Residents affected are asked to contact 101 (or 999 if appropriate) or make reports online and if any specific addresses or registration numbers of vehicles are known that is particularly helpful.

Winter Wonderland: We are still waiting on the Council to propose a more suitable site for the 2024 event, following the damage to the park when the equipment was removed after the 2023 event.

3. Standing items

Surgeries in June and July 2024

- Saturday 8 June:
 - Shaldon Court on Barnstaple Road at 1pm
 - Budgens on Kimbolton Road at 2pm/Community Policing attending
- Saturday 15 June, Brickhill Drive Shops at 10am*
- Saturday 13 July:
 - Chiltern Avenue shops at 1pm.
 - Fox & Hounds on Goldington Road at 2pm.
- Saturday 13 July, Brickhill Drive Shops at 10am*

*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 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, then please do so. 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!

Published and promoted by Henry Vann on behalf of the Liberal Democrats a 5 Park Avenue, Bedford, MK40 2JY.

Reporting back to Parish and Town Councils

A briefing from Bedford Borough Council Liberal Democrat Group

This is a report from the Bedford Borough Council Liberal Democrat Group for Parish Councils within the Bedford Borough area. It is part of our remit as a constituted group that we seek to communicate with parishes and residents across the Bedford Borough Council area.

We have asked your Clerk to circulate this to their Parish Councillors and we hope you find this communication helpful, and we welcome any feedback.

Dear Councillor.

Thank you so much for the feedback you have shared and the positive response we have received from previous reports to Parish and Town Councils; we hope that you find these helpful and if you have any suggested items for our Group to raise with Bedford Borough Council or any issues on which you would like us to report in the future, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

This briefing includes information about proposals to charge for telecare access and proposed cuts to bus services in Bedford Borough.

Plans announced to charge for Telecare access

We have been contacted by residents expressing their worry and distress at the plans to start charging for Telecare services. For many people, Telecare provides essential support in the home, including personal alarms, falls detectors, embrace watches, chair and bed sensors and medication boxes. We have already been fighting these plans at the Council, and you can respond to the Council's consultation [online](#).

Petition against bus cuts

Stagecoach are planning to cut bus frequency on numerous routes (check their update [here](#)); we have launched a petition to stop the cuts to the 4, 5 and 10 service and are supporting other residents' petitions against the changes.

We will continue to work hard on your behalf and if you have any suggestions or requests for future editions of *Reporting back to Parish and Town Councils*, please do let us know.

With best wishes from Bedford Borough Council Liberal Democrat Group.

Henry and Jon

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