

Brickhill Borough Councillors Update April 2018 **From Wendy Rider and Charles Royden**

Potholes and resurfacing

There are currently severe potholes on parts of Brickhill Drive/Curlew Crescent and Kimbolton Road/Tamar. We have also asked that attention be given to Torrdige Rise and Windrush

Begging outside Tesco in Brickhill Drive

We have been approached by local businesses and residents concerned about the begging outside Tesco. There is considerable upset that those begging are known locally and are not homeless as they claim but have known addresses in Brickhill. We have advised the police and asked that action be taken. The Borough Council has recently supported a campaign with other partners and homeless charities across Bedford which encourages people not to give money to people begging on the street. With the headline 'Give a hand up and not a hand out' it seeks to discourage direct giving which is often used to buy drugs, but rather to support charities providing targeted resources to help those who are really homeless. The aim is to raise awareness of the wide range of local charities who work to help homeless people, and the good that they could do to offer lasting change with donations from local people.



No Verge Parking

There has been an advertisement of the proposed no verge parking in the roads off Bourneside. We have spoken to a number of residents who have expressed their support.

Thomas More Residents Meetings

We have met with the school and residents to discuss matters of concern to local residents. The no verge parking scheme in Moriston Road has not yet been implemented despite the advertisements being made some time ago. We are currently chasing this.

No 6 Buses

We are concerned and have complained to Stagecoach about the poor service of the No6 which is not being delivered according to the timetable.

Damage to Verges

Destruction of verges especially on Severn Way and Falcon Avenue is of concern and we are seeking to have these repaired and protected. Recently a resident reported a Stagecoach bus which had driven over a verge in Linnet Way and became stuck. Thanks to the resident we were able to pursue a claim against Stagecoach to recover the cost of making good the verge.

School safety enforcement cameras

Cameras are currently in use on the zig zags outside Thomas More and Brickhill Lower. These are being rolled out across schools and will be moved around to provide ongoing enforcement of the safety area.

Transporting Bedford 2020

Hedging has been removed in Manton Lane as part of the plans to reconfigure the junction and access to Bedford Modern.

Parish Council Tea Party

We met with folks at the tea party and we are grateful to our clerks for the work they put into delivering the event which was much appreciated by all.

Accommodation on Brickhill Drive

We have received some more complaints about the new building and we have referred folks to the officers at BPHA. Subsequent to the construction we will ensure that verges are made good which have been damaged during the building.

High Court Injunction - Waveney Green

We continue to pursue the High Court Injunction for Waveney Green. We understand that this was delayed due to the departure of a key officer from the council. It is important to have this in place as quickly as possible.

Entrance to Avon Drive Shops

The entrance to the car park is in bad order with multiple pot holes. This area was under the control of Greene King and we are trying to establish who is responsible for its repair as it is not owned by the council.

Glass recycling Avon Drive

We have requested extra capacity as the bin has been overflowing recently. The new containers were damaged by a vehicle and will be replaced soon. A temporary facility has been put in place in the meantime.

Litter Enforcement

Mayor Dave Hodgson has set out a zero tolerance of littering and anti-social behaviour and following action by Bedford Borough Council, two men have been ordered to pay over £700 each for littering. The Council spends over a million pounds clearing up the mess left by litter bugs.

Work Continues in £3.5million Upgrade of Older People's Homes

Major improvement works are continuing across Bedford Borough's care homes. The Council is carrying out a £3.5million upgrade of its residential homes for older people. Works that have been completed include improved bathrooms with boilers and pipework replaced where necessary, more access ramps alongside external works including car parks and paving, and internal remodelling. There is more to come though, with new lifts being installed in every home and further remodelling, redecoration and lighting upgrades planned. Highfield has already benefitted and we are delighted to see this investment.

As your local councillors we will continue to work hard and keep you informed through regular deliveries of FOCUS, surgeries and website where you can sign up for a regular Brickhill newsletter.

www.puttingbrickhillfirst.com

Wendy Rider, 23 Orwell Close, Brickhill, MK41 7BQ 01234 303254 wendyrider41@gmail.com

Charles Royden, The Vicarage, Calder Rise, Brickhill, 01234 309175 charlesroyden@gmail.com