

BRICKHILL NEWS

The newsletter of Brickhill Parish Council

Issue 44

February 2016

Neighbourhood Plan: Would you like to help shape new developments in Brickhill?

The Parish Council is looking to initiate the process for developing a Neighbourhood Development Plan for Brickhill. This would set a vision for Brickhill and allow for local policies to be drawn up that would be taken into consideration by the Borough Council in their determination of future planning applications.

Whilst a Neighbourhood Plan cannot prevent development, it can help shape it to meet local priorities and needs. Indeed, the powers available to local communities which have a Neighbourhood Plan extend to the ability to grant planning permission for the types of development they want in their area.

To start the process, the Parish Council is looking for anyone who might have an interest in joining a neighbourhood forum. As a member of this forum you will have the opportunity to make suggestions and have a say on the types of issues and priorities we should be pursuing in Brickhill. If you are interested, or if you would like to find out more, please join us for the first meeting to be held in the Biffa Room 7pm—9pm at St Mark's Church on Wednesday 2nd March 2016.

For further information on Neighbourhood plans, and how these have worked elsewhere, please see: <http://www.ourneighbourhoodplanning.org.uk/home>

Beauchamp Middle School

This half term has proved to be very productive with our pupils working very hard again in their subjects. Our Parents' Evening was testament to this with plenty of positive feedback received from parents regarding their child's progress, which is always pleasing to hear.

To support the Year 5 geography topic, a homework task was set to create a model of a habitat with details of what threatens this and its inhabitants. "The children have presented so many wonderful examples of habitats, it really has brought this topic to life", said Miss Lill, Year 5 Teacher.

Our 'Arts' Leaders', pupils that have demonstrated a love and flair for art, have been working with local artist Amanda Silk as part of The Harpur Trust art competition. The theme of the competition is to create a piece of artwork based on a famous Bedfordian, past or present and is just one of their 450th anniversary celebrations. Winning entries will be displayed at The Higgins during July and August.

Year 8 pupils have been 'focussing on their future'. This started in November with a visit to the National Skills Show learning about a wide range of industries and career paths. More recently, they have taken part in a series of workshops specifically designed to look at how they would go about getting a job, attending an interview and thinking positively about their personal attributes. We are very thankful for all those who have supported this initiative including the professionals who visited us to talk about their particular industry and chosen job-role. Our half termly newsletter has more articles that you may find interesting – visit www.beauchampschool.co.uk or follow us on Twitter @BeauchampMiddle.



BRICKHILL PARISH COUNCILLORS

EAST WARD

Cllr Mark Fitzpatrick (Chair)

20 Nursery Gardens, Brickhill, MK41 8DU

☎01234 357259 📧mark.x.fitzpatrick@gmail.com

Cllr Peter Blakeman (Planning Committee Chair)

15 Dove Road, Brickhill, MK41 7AA

☎01234 355952 📧pj.blakeman@btopenworld.com

Cllr Alex Chrusciak

1c Falcon Avenue, Brickhill, MK41 7DS

☎01234 350884 📧almo5000@hotmail.co.uk

Cllr Tim Retout

53 Fulmar Road, Brickhill MK41 7JZ

☎01234 307998 📧tim@retout.co.uk

NORTH WARD

Cllr Vincent Holloway

6 Petteril Walk, Brickhill MK41 7XJ

☎01234 214533 📧vholloway1975@hotmail.co.uk

Cllr Corinne Royden

The Vicarage, Calder Rise, Brickhill MK41 7UY

☎01234 309175 📧corinneroyden@gmail.com

Cllr Charles Royden

The Vicarage, Calder Rise, Brickhill MK41 7UY

☎01234 309175 📧charlesroyden@gmail.com

WOODLANDS PARK WARD

Cllr Chris Bailes

16 Sturmer Road, Brickhill MK41 7FJ

☎07525 166313 📧cbailes78@gmail.com

Cllr Gaius Manser

124 Ashmead Road, Brickhill MK41 7FD

☎07805 201264 📧mansergaius@aol.com

SOUTH AND WEST WARD

Cllr Mark Bowler

72 Crispin Drive, Brickhill MK41 7FS

☎07855 851266 📧markbrickhill@gmail.com

Cllr Morris Johns

129 Brickhill Drive, Brickhill MK41 7QG

☎01234 217364 📧morrisjohns@yahoo.co.uk

Cllr Ann Reeve

7 Orwell Close, Brickhill MK41 7BQ

☎01234 343260 📧r_reeve1@sky.com

Cllr Wendy Rider

23 Orwell Close, Brickhill MK41 7BQ

☎01234 303254 📧wendyrider41@gmail.com

Cllr Cathrine Ward

8 Starling Way, Brickhill MK41 7HW

☎01234 295951 📧mahovoward@yahoo.co.uk

Parish Council meetings are open to the public and take place on the first Thursday of every month at 7:30pm (except August & December) and take place at St Mark's Church Community Centre, Calder Rise, Brickhill MK41 7UY

Councillor Surgeries are held at 7pm before each Parish Council Meeting.

Sue Bottoms, Clerk to the Council

Brickhill Community Centre, Avon Drive, Brickhill, MK41 7AF ☎01234 271708

📧clerk@brickhillparishcouncil.gov.uk



Annual Parish Meeting

Wednesday 13th April 2016 at 7:30pm

**St Mark's Church, Calder Rise, Brickhill
All Welcome**

Come along and find out what has been going on in Brickhill and plans for the future

Brickhill News is published by Brickhill Parish Council. Printed by White Hart Press, 58a York Street, Bedford. Disclaimer: Whilst every effort has been made to ensure that the information provided is accurate at the time of going to press, the Parish Council takes no responsibility for the errors or omissions in editorial or advertising content. The views expressed by contributors are not necessarily those of the Council.

Easter Activity Sessions

Do you have a child aged 7-12 years old? Do you live in Brickhill?
If so why not book them onto one of our activity courses during the Easter holidays. Our activities are run by Sport Support Group and take place at Scott Lower School.



- Wednesday 30th March American Multisports (includes baseball, dodgeball)
- Wednesday 6th April Terminator Turmoil and Adrenaline Races (inflatable fun)

£7.50 PER SESSION

Activities take place from 9am—1pm and cost only £7.50 per child. These activities are subsidised by the Parish Council. Places are limited to only 25 children per session.

To book your space contact the parish council on 01234 271708 or email the council office at clerk@brickhillparishcouncil.gov.uk



This summer we will also be running 4 sessions, Battlefield Live, Climbing Wall and Low Ropes, Bushcraft and Wild Survival and Laser Clay Pigeon Shooting and Archery

Residents help tidy up Woodlands Park

On 9th January a group of residents and parish councillors braved the rain to help pick up litter in Woodlands Park. The litter pick was organised by Brickhill Parish Council, with help from Bedford Borough Council who provided the equipment and took away the rubbish collected.

If you would like to help in future litter picks or have suggestions for where these should take place, please contact our Parish Clerk, at Brickhill Parish Council's office (email: clerk@brickhillparishcouncil.gov.uk, tel 01234 271708) or any of your parish councillors.



Mark and Polly Bowler with just some of the litter collected

Brickhill Lower School Football Club Update

BLSFC is enjoying another successful season on Waveney Green, with around 80 boys and girls registered in teams for Reception Year, Year 1, Year 2, Year 3 and Year 4 (ages four to nine) – and many more on the waiting list! The volunteer coaches deliver training every Saturday morning, and have been able to organise a number of friendly matches with other local schools and teams.

In recent weeks, due to the bad weather, we have been holding special training sessions on the 'astro-turf' pitches on Polhill Avenue, which the children have really enjoyed. But we are looking forward to returning 'home' to the grass pitches after half term.

The season will culminate in a BLSFC Fun Day in July, and more details of this event will be shared soon. We are always looking for volunteers to help with the club, and are currently looking for a treasurer and child welfare officer for the 2016-2017 season. If you are interested in volunteering, coaching or sponsoring the team, or have any questions, please contact the new Chairperson, Jamie Bridge, at bridgejamie@hotmail.com

VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED

Brickhill Parish Council are looking for volunteers to help deliver our newsletter. Brickhill News is published 4 times per year and delivered to every household within the Parish. This means we need lots of volunteers—could this be you? If you could deliver to a few local streets near to where you live and can spare an hour please contact our Clerk—details are on page 2. Thank You.

Brickhill Parish Council budget for 2016/17

Brickhill Parish Council has set its budget for 2016/17, with Council Tax unchanged from last year: for a Band D property it will be £33.09. The Parish Council looks after Waveney Green, Brickhill Community Centre and Brickhill allotments. The budget will enable more of the badly cracked footpaths on Waveney Green to be repaired, as well as the ongoing maintenance of the play areas. It also covers many other items, such as funding for the 'Gathering on the Green' event in July, possible provision of extra notice boards near schools, the now regular play schemes for children at Easter and in the summer, support for the Community Safety Forum and other local organisations.

Elsewhere in 'Brickhill News' you will see the article about a possible Neighbourhood Plan. Creating such a plan won't be an easy task - but it would give everyone in the community a real chance to influence the way that Brickhill develops in years to come. If you are interested in finding out more - please do get in touch.

Cllr Mark Fitzpatrick, Chair of Brickhill Parish Council



Special Sport Commendation for Brickhill Lower School

In December, Bedford Borough Council hosted their annual sports awards at the Corn Exchange. The event celebrated schools that not only succeed in performing at the highest level, but also support and provide sporting opportunities for all. Brickhill were thrilled to be nominated for Sporting School of the Year along with four other Bedford schools. Competition



was stiff, and Brickhill missed winning by a whisker, but were delighted to be awarded a special sporting commendation to recognise their outstanding contribution towards sport. Head Teacher Debbie Wilson said after receiving the award "We're over the moon. This acknowledges our exceptional sporting achievements and I couldn't be more proud of our pupils and teachers".

Continuing in sporting excellence is the school's tag rugby team, which has gone from strength to strength since finishing first place in the autumn term's inter school sporting competition. The mixed team, which has only lost one of their five qualifying matches, has reached the county finals, which take place at the Inspire Sports Village in Luton 4th March. This is a massive achievement for the pupils and they are bursting with nerves and excitement at being so close to scooping the county title – watch this space for further news!



Art Attack!

Budding young artists welcomed the opportunity to learn from the professionals, when a local artist visited the school to deliver a series of specialist art workshops. The children are taking part in an art competition which is part of the Harpur Trust's 450th anniversary celebrations. Themed around 'Recording Bedford', young artists were given the opportunity to create imaginative artwork to reflect Bedford over the last 450 years. The visiting artist helped to stimulate the children's creative side and ideas ranged from the Olympic Torch travelling through Bedford to the filming of Batman at Cardington hangers! These ideas are currently being turned into masterpieces, which could go on display at the Higgins Gallery this Summer.

Woodlands Park - CCTV and other news

The Parish Council is in detailed discussion with the Borough about the planned installation of CCTV cameras at each end of Ashmead Road. These would be paid for from the 'Ravensden money', the cash transferred to Brickhill Parish Council from Ravensden Parish Council last year, when the Woodlands Park estate formerly became part of Brickhill Parish. The design and specification of the cameras have been agreed, the outstanding issue is to agree the ongoing maintenance costs. In addition, residents near two proposed gateways (one in Crispin Drive, one in Saltcote Way) in the perimeter fence are being consulted with. The gates would allow safe access to the country park, instead of the ad-hoc gaps that have been made in the fences. Brickhill Parish Council is arranging a meeting with the Borough and Persimmon to discuss the adoption status of the estate. Most of the roads haven't been adopted, likewise the paths, open spaces, play areas and Country Park. The plans for using the remainder of the Ravensden money are affected by this. The poor state of some of the paths means that adoption is likely to be delayed until they have been brought up to a good standard by Persimmon.

Brickhill Borough Councillors Report - February 2016

We must pay tribute to councillors of all political parties who came together at the beginning of February and voted unanimously on a budget for how the Borough Council would spend its money for the next year. The good news is that all of the councillors from all political parties in Bedford Borough have agreed how best we can work together to do the best for our community and how we should spend the small amount of money which we now have for essential front line services.



The bad news was that after having already made 81 million pounds worth of cuts since we became a unitary authority, we are now having to make another 25 million pounds worth of cuts. The Borough Council is responsible for looking after the elderly, vulnerable adults and children and as the population gets older and we develop more medicine to give and prolong life, the cost of doing this is going through the roof. The Council is also responsible for education, adults and children with disabilities, as well as all of the other things which we take for granted like emptying the bins, repairing the roads and cutting the grass.

Please try to understand that with such huge cuts there is less and less money available to spend on things which we have taken for granted and we cannot do all that we would like to do, especially to repair things like roads and pavements. As your local councillors we will be doing our best to keep on top of our environment and we are committed to ensuring that Brickhill is a great place to live. However with reduced money we need the support of everybody in our community. You can help us in our efforts to track down people who allow their dogs to foul pavements, litter our streets or who drive over our grass verges. All of these things costs money which could be better spent on the things we really need. If you see this kind of anti-social behaviour then please report it to the Borough Council by phone or on the website or contact us direct. We are always pleased to speak with you and you are welcome to come to our regular surgeries at the shops on a Saturday morning, as advertised on our website. For more information on what is happening in and around Brickhill and to keep in touch please visit our website 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



News from Scott Lower

The Year 1 children at Scott Lower School had a wonderful time at Bedford Museum this week. They have been learning all about toys from the past and comparing them to the toys they have now. Jack-in-the-boxes, whipping tops, cup and ball games and a



traditional wooden Noah's Ark were real favourites with the children. It was a fabulous opportunity for our children to have first hand experience of toys from the past. Many facts were learnt, for example, did you know that teddy bears used to have eyes made from either boot buttons or glass and they were stuffed with sawdust or horse hair?. A far cry from our soft cuddly bears as we know them today.

Brickhill Good Neighbours Scheme

Volunteers from the Brickhill Good Neighbours Scheme can help residents with a variety of needs such as: lifts to medical appointments or social events, minor DIY, dog walking or befriending. If you need help or you want to get involved as a volunteer (more car drivers needed in particular!) Please telephone 07445 594050.



Is your home hard to heat?

Brickhill working with AgeUK, can offer free advice and practical help. If interested please contact Mark Fitzpatrick on 01234 357259.



ADVERTISEMENTS

Goodbye
Weeds



Prices from
£5 * per month



With our prices from as little as **£5* per month** for providing a great service, is it any wonder that 40% of our new customers come to us through recommendation.



So, call today for your **FREE** lawn analysis:
0800 0111 222

*Prices based on a lawn size up to 60m²

Hello
Beautiful
Lawn



ZUMBA
gold

SHAKE IT AT YOUR OWN PACE!

Get active with great people at the dance party workout for the young at heart!

Easy-to-follow Zumba® choreography that focuses on balance, range of motion and coordination.

Come ready to sweat, and prepare to leave empowered and feeling strong.

FIND A CLASS NEAR YOU

MONDAYS 09.45AM - 10.45AM.
CARLTON CLUB, 38 HIGH ST.
OLNEY, MK46 4BB

*MONDAYS 1.15PM - 2.15PM
BRICKHILL COMMUNITY CENTRE,
AVON DRIVE, BEDFORD, MK41 7AF

WEDNESDAYS 09.30AM - 10.30AM.
BRICKHILL COMMUNITY CENTRE,
AVON DRIVE, BEDFORD, MK41 7AF

FRIDAYS 10.00AM - 11.00AM
ST. JOHN'S AMBULANCE HALL,
WELLINGBOROUGH ROAD, OLNEY
MK46 5AF

*From 13th April 2015

FOR CLASS DETAILS

Contact your licensed Zumba® Instructor Chantell on:
Tel: 07743004519 - Email: cmcfitness28@gmail.com



Scott Lower School Nursery

Because the start to their education is so important!



Inspire, Believe, Achieve!

We have **limited** places still available in our nursery for
April 2016 and September 2016.

Come to our open evening

Wednesday 2nd March 6:30pm



We would love to show you
around our school, so to arrange
a tour please get in touch.

Scott Lower School
Hawk Drive, Bedford, MK41 7JA
T: 01234 352630 E: office@scottlower.co.uk
W: www.scott.beds.sch.uk

**SWITCHED ON
ELECTRICAL
SERVICES**

Domestic Electrical Services

Rewires

New RCD Consumer Units

New Circuits

New Lights & Sockets

Replacement Lights & Sockets

Outdoor Lighting & Power

Please call for free quotation

T: 01234 360964

M: 07703 017800



ADVERTISEMENTS



DRG ARBOR SERVICES

Offering a friendly and helpful service to many aspects of tree surgery including crown reduction, crown lifting, pruning, thinning, tree removal, stump-grinding and re-planting. All hedge work undertaken and all waste is 100% recycled.

Utilising more than 35 years of experience, fully qualified NPTC staff and work covered by our comprehensive public liability insurance, we offer a complete service to our customers, residential or business. For a free no obligation quotation please contact us on 01234 781692 or 07910 820996. Alternatively you can contact us by email at DRG.Arbor.Services@gmail.com

We are a designated contractor for Biddenham and Brickhill Parish Council.



Monday - Putnoe Primary School
Zumba - 6.30pm
Kettlebell n Box - 7.30pm (Text to reserve a place)
Wednesdays - Scott Lower School
Zumba 6.30pm
Friday - Brickhill Scout Hut
Kettlebells 09.30am (Text to reserve a place)
Sunday - Brickhill Scout Hut
Kettlebells 11am (Text to reserve a place)

Clubbercise will be on the following days
Monday 09.30am and 10.45am, Sunday 10am start
date to be confirmed. Limited spaces so please
register your interest via Facebook or Text.



Like and Follow Explosion Fitness Bedford on
Facebook www.explosion.vpweb.co.uk
07402 965490



Brickhill Help and Advice



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

Borough Councillor Charles Royden
The Vicarage, Calder Rise, Brickhill,
Bedford. MK41 7UY 01234 309175
charlesroyden@gmail.com

Local surgeries taking place at 10am at:

**Brickhill Drive Saturday 19th March
& Avon Drive Saturday 5th March**

**See our website
www.puttingbrickhillfirst.com
For details of surgeries and the latest
Brickhill news**

Nikki Ginn
Carpentry & Property Maintenance
No job too **BIG** or small

Specialised in:
All types of woodwork
Refurbishments
Roofline and all aspects of roofing
Building maintenance

5 Malcote Close
Biddenham, Bedford
nikkiginn90@icloud.com

07974 633524



**Are you a local business looking
to advertise?**

Brickhill News is delivered to all households
within the parish of Brickhill and is published
4 times per year.

A 1/4 page advert costs only £25.00 and a
series discount of 10% applies if you book
for the year.

Contact the parish council on 01234 271708

live happy!

with
Slimming World



TUESDAYS

**St Mark's Church
& Community Centre**

Calder Rise
Off Avon Drive
Brickhill
Bedford

9.30 am & 11.30 am
3.30 pm, 5.30 pm & 7.30 pm

Contact:
Lorrie 01234 340 473

visit the website to read Kelsey-Beth's story
slimmingworld.co.uk

   0344 897 8000



*More people in the UK choose to attend a Slimming World group each week than any other weight loss group.

Slimming
WORLD

touching hearts, changing lives